Gc
929.2
N3312ln
2070645

M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 01419 0497

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019

https://archive.org/details/wildernesshome1800nels

WILDERNESS HOME

— 1854 —

By

Joseph S. Nelson

US 122

E 79 10573.3

Source - Jos. Nelson R Jan 30-1980 PO 10236

sufficient address

2070645

SERVICE
NOV 13
1978
SC 570

Copyright, 1958
By
Joseph S. Nelson

DEC 16 1958
Joseph S. Nelson
N13
1958

FOREWORD

In preparing this history for "Wilderness Home 1854" I am not attempting to set it up in literary style but to relate the narrative in a simple understandable form. For a large portion of it I am deeply indebted to my parents and the descendents of Nels and Anna Rovang-Olson, who related or left valuable records which made possible the publication of a more complete family history. In one instance only was it impossible to locate a relative mentioned in a memorandum left by Grandfather Nels Rovang - Olson. In this memorandum he bequeathed to his granddaughter, Mary Ann Hayden, a portion of his estate. A search of all records available and inquiry from members of the family has failed to reveal any record of her birth or existence. A more thorough search will follow the completion of this history.

I am deeply indebted to my wife, Mabel, for her encouragement and valuable assistance in planning and editing this history of my family.

I am grateful to my brother Alfred, (Fred) C. Nelson and his wife, Anne, who in 1904 visited Rovang Gaard, the old family home in Norway. There they secured photographs and information found in chapter I, which he has written.

Ole Hovey, a distant relative and a more recent resident of Rovang Gaard, now residing at Los Angeles, has contributed to this history. Mr. Hovey is the possessor of a history of Rovang Gaard published in Norway a number of years ago, containing the history of many generations of the family long before it assumed the name of Rovang Gaard in 1620. The original Rovang Gaard was comprised of rich valley land bordering Baegna River and extended up into the foothills of the mountains. In providing homes for the ever expanding Rovang population, the Gaard was, sometime in the past, subdivided

into four gaards, each gaard independent with a portion of cultivated land. All the old farm buildings were removed a number of years ago and replaced with modern farm buildings. All of the gaards are owned by the Rovang families. George Rovang is owner of the Nels Rovang home.

During intervening years many Rovangs were born. Many, who reached maturity, found homes in various parts of Norway. Others migrated to America to find homes in the States or Provinces of Canada, where the family name is often found.

It has been my endeavor to make this history as complete and free from error as possible. I wish to thank the many descendent families who assisted by supplying information for this history. Omissions may appear, however, due to lack of interest on the part of some families. The names of more than eight hundred descendents of Nels and Anna Rovang-Olson are recorded in this history.

I wish to extend my appreciation to Miss Lora Crouch, librarian, and the staff of the Carnegie Library in Sioux Falls for their courteous assistance in providing references; to the Minnesota Historical Society for providing information on pioneer history; to Walter Havighurst for quoting "Changing Skies" appearing in this issue.

Joseph S. Nelson.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER I and II 7
NELS ROVANG - OLSON

CHAPTER III 49
OLIVER NELSON

CHAPTER IV 183
OLE NELSON

CHAPTER V 227
ANNA SOPHA NELSON

CHAPTER VI 235
NELS NELSON ROVANG

CHAPTER VII 261
ROVANG CHRISTIAN NELSON

CHAPTER VIII 263
SARAH NELSON

CHAPTER IX 281
JANE NELSON

CHAPTER X 295
ARNOLD EDWARD NELSON

CHAPTER XI 317
NEELE NELSON

STARS DENOTE GENERATIONS IN EACH FAMILY

* First Generation.

* * Second Generation.

* * * Third Generation.

* * * * Fourth Generation.

* * * * * Fifth Generation.

* * * * * * Sixth Generation.

* * * * * * * Seventh Generation.

CHAPTER ONE

*

NELS ROVANG - OLSON

This sketch deals with the life of Nels Rovang-Olson and his family. It begins with the family life in Norway. We are interested in knowing something of the old home of his parents and discovering why they decided to immigrate to America. It is interesting to know what route they took on their pilgrimage from the old country to their new home. It will also deal with the early life of Mary Ann Bren and her marriage to Oliver Nelson. Much of the material that should compose this story was not collected before important members of the family passed away. Therefore, many details and facts are no longer available and many questions remain unanswered. It has seemed all the more urgent that such facts as we have, should be recorded for posterity.

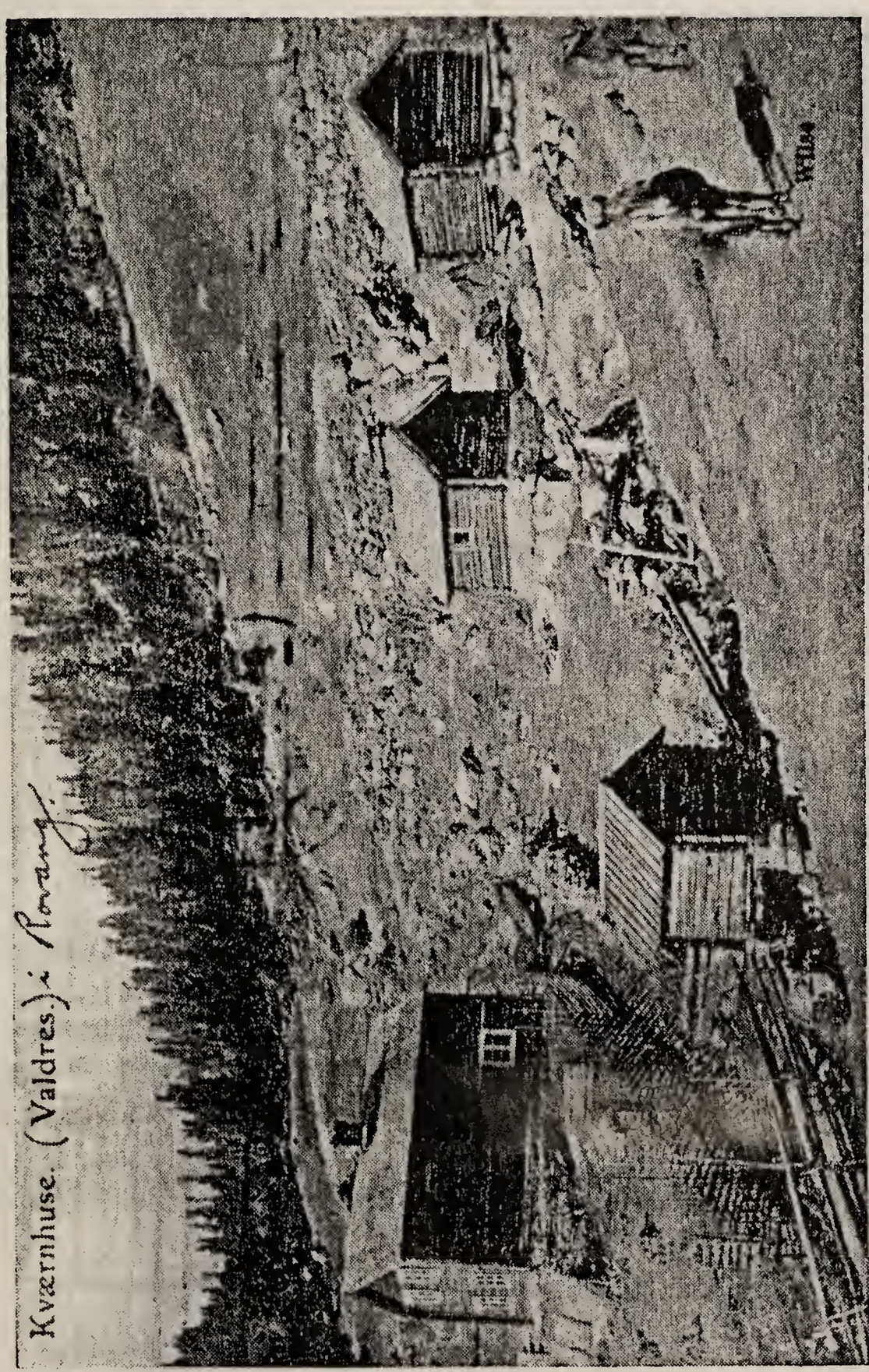
For many generations the Rovang families had lived in a beautiful section of Norway known as Valdres, in the valley of the Baegna River. Their farm consisted of several acres of tillable land known as the Rovang Gaard. The Rovang Gaard was composed of four Gaards or farms: Ursdale Gaard, Nye Gaard, Sye Gaard and Mari Gaard. They were clustered together as members of a single family. The smaller Gaards appear to be splinters off the larger ones due to inheritance and dividing of farms. These farms were passed from one generation to another.

Nels Rovang - Olson, our grandfather, began his

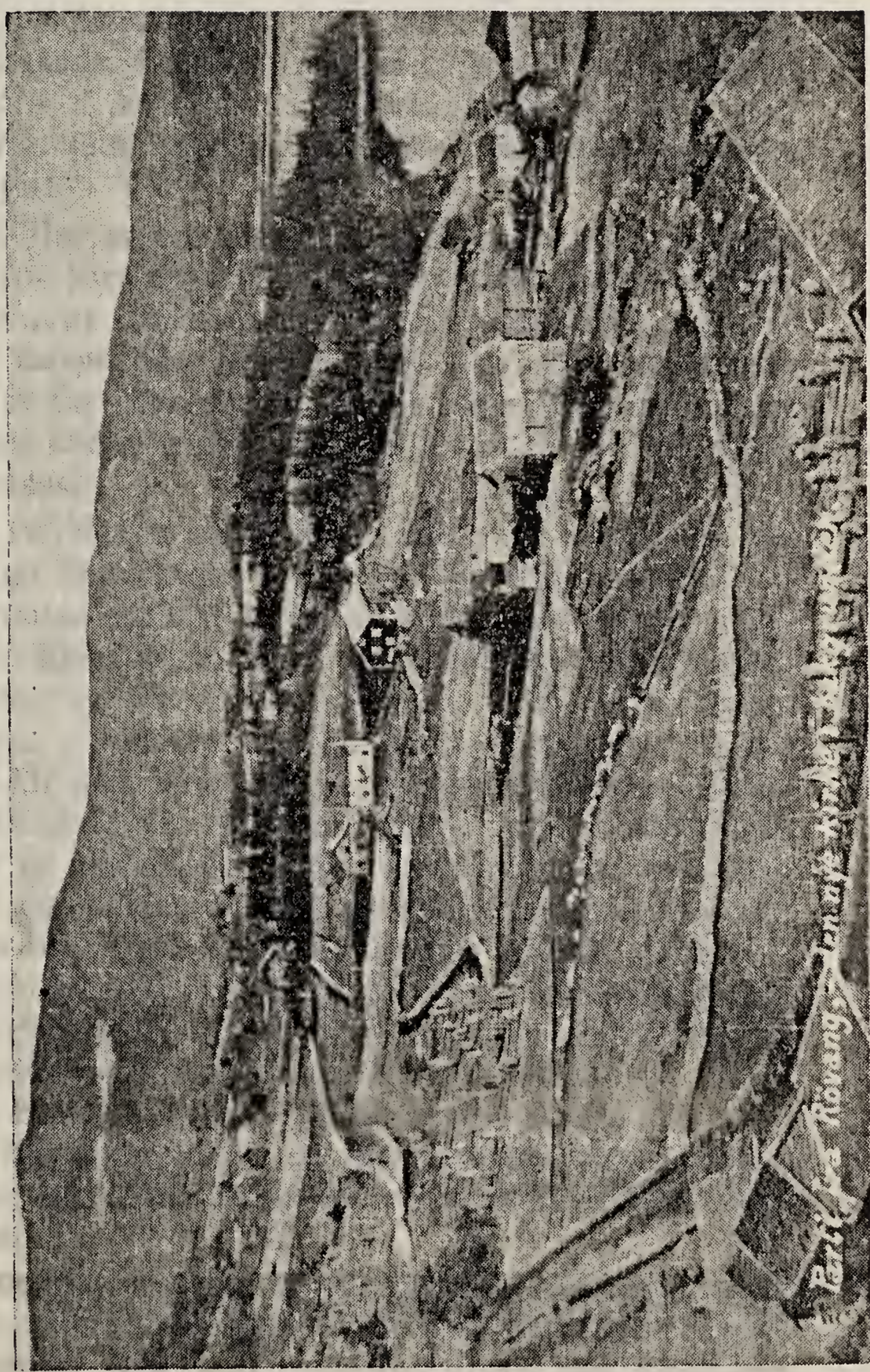
life on the Ursdale Gaard. This little farm, the most northerly of the Rovang Gaards, was divided by an important highway built and maintained by the government because it provided a pass through the mountains and connected the Songe Fjord with the interior valleys and the city of Oslo. The farm by our estimate might be called small. The fields were watered by melting snows and rain from the mountains. All land between the mountains and the fjord was tillable, and was sown broadcast and harvested by cradle. In order to gather every head of grain, the family went over the fields with hand rakes. Women and children of the family would lend a hand in this annual grain gathering.

The farm buildings were placed on the upper side of the road and were approached by a short but steep roadway. They were made from home-sawed, rough lumber, and paint had not touched the woodwork of any of the buildings, so they were very weather-beaten in appearance. A heavy stand of Norway forest reached nearly to the farm buildings.

The house was ample in size to accommodate a family of seven or eight and consisted of a living room, parlor, kitchen and four bedrooms. It was "T" shaped and had the bedrooms on the second floor. The furniture was hand-made but comfortable. It consisted of cupboards for food and dishes, tables, chairs and benches. The beds were made with tightly stretched ropes upon which were placed a tick of straw topped with a tick of feathers. There also was a spinning wheel which was in almost constant use to prepare yarn for making gloves, mittens, socks, stockings, scarves, shawls, caps, underwear, blankets and other clothing. There was a



Rovang Gaard As It Was In 1850.



The Rovang Gaard as it was one hundred years later. The old family home is shown in the upper portion of the picture. The eight hundred year old church and the new one are seen in the distance.

loom which was used for weaving cloth, blankets and rugs. Rag rugs were used to cover the rough floor boards. For the mother of the home it was a busy life of cooking, sewing, knitting, spinning and weaving. Her work sometimes extended far into the night.

In the cellar under the house was a storage place for jars of fruit and vegetables. There were open crocks for cooling the milk and skimming the cream during the winter time. A small section was set aside for jars of goats' milk, which was a product of every farm, and was highly valued for its many table uses.

A stream of water came down the mountain not far from the house. Over this stream they built a milk house called "kvaernhuse", used in the summer to keep their milk cool and which afforded fresh spring water for the home. This little house was also a bakery for flat bread and other baked foods. Ale was brewed here, especially for the Christmas Festival. In the springtime when there was plenty of water-power they ground grain and also sawed wood. Two milk houses built by other Rovang gaards were located immediately up the stream.

Besides the house, there was a building called "stabur" which was a storehouse for grain, cheese, flat bread and vegetables. Here were stored many things not conveniently kept in the house. To keep away the mice, rats and other vermin the "stabur" was set on stone posts which kept it well off the ground.

Another important building was the barn, made of logs whch gave good shelter to the cows, horses and goats. Hay was gathered from the meadows and stored in a convenient place near the barn.

The hay fields were located on the flat below the highway. Haying was a tedious but important task for the farmers. The hay was cut with a scythe, raked into bunches and hung on posts to dry. The hay was then securely tied to the posts so none of it would touch the ground.

The open spaces of the highlands above the valley were used for pasturing the cattle during the long summer days. Here the grass in the little mountain valleys grew abundantly. These pastures were called "saeters." The "saeters" had log huts for the milkmaids and corrals to protect the cattle at night. On the last few days in June the maidens from neighboring gaards would drive the cattle to the "saeters" for a few months' stay, taking with them their wooden milk pails and butter tubs. They herded the cattle and milked the cows daily, making butter and cheese from the milk. The favorite cow was adorned with a "far-sounding" bell that blended with the bells of other herds, which made the mountains ring with bell-music. The gaards co-operated in furnishing the milkmaids for the "saeters" and in hauling the butter and cheese to market. The land was owned by the government and rented year after year to the farmers for a nominal fee. This was probably the beginning of the co-operative movement prevalent in Norway today.

The mountain regions were very extensive and were the natural habitat of the deer, bear, elk, and other game. The deer and elk provided good hunting for the sportsmen who with the aid of their elkhounds were very successful in bagging their game. Black bears were very numerous and would at times range to the lower foothills and attack cattle to satisfy their hunger. Occasionally some

person would be severely mauled or killed in their encounter with them. Our mother related an incident in which a big bear attacked a "critter" of the herd which she and another girl were tending. The two girls grabbed fence rails and drove the bear away before a kill could be made. Norway later had a very extensive road building program through the mountains which necessitated a great deal of blasting with dynamite which evidently scared the bears from that location, as none were seen in that vicinity during the remainder of mother's life in Norway.

If one were to look southward from the farm house he could see the lake called the Slidre Fjord. This lake was formed by glaciers in early ages and filled by the clear water of the Baegna River. Other lakes were formed in the river from place to place by glacial action.

The gaard which joined Rovang on the south was called Lomen. It had seven divisions or families. The Lomen gaard was noted for having an old Stave Kirke on its land. This Kirke was only two miles from Ursdale and was the church our forebearers attended for many generations. There are very few such churches remaining in Norway today. This church was built about 1,050 A. D. Close to it stands a separate bell tower probably built at a later date. The church stands near Baegna Lake. This location was convenient to members of the congregation who lived on the other side. One such family was that of Karstad, from which a daughter was married to Nels Rovang. At some time the Stave Kirke was remodeled and much of its rustic beauty was lost. This old church has now been closed except for services on special occasions, and is being kept

in "memory of olden times." A new church was built not far away to take its place and serve the needs of the congregation. About eight miles south of Rovang there is a beautiful stone church called the Vestre Slidre Church. It was built about 1,100 A. D. and is considered the head church of the parish. Here all marriages, confirmations and baptisms are held.

In recent years a book has been published in Norway by Tare Eye or Tare Odegaard. It is a report on a research he made on church records in two districts in Norway. The book is called "Vang og Slidre." These reports go back to the year 1612 A. D. and are concerned with the different gaards or farms, and tell of births, deaths and transfer of ownership of the gaards. The book is difficult even for a Norwegian to read because the records were written by Danish priests in a dialect not used today.

In the year 1392 the gaard name was spelled Rodewang. In 1520 it had changed to Roffuang. In 1578 it was Rodvang; and 1592 it was Rovang, which name it has kept ever since. Rovang was divided into four parts and Ursdale was designated as number four.

Under date of 1816 the owner of Ursdale gaard was Gutorm of Rovang who had the following children: Engebret, Ola, Marte, Anna and Andris. It also tells whom they married. Under the date of 1664 Oluf or Ola owned the farm. He had a daughter Guro who married Hans Michelson. They had four children as follows: Michel, born in 1683, Berit and Sigri, twins, born in 1689, and Kari, born in 1693. Michel, who married Sigri, the daughter of Gutorm, inherited the gaard but was killed by Knute Myre. We do not know if this was a murder. There was a

comment written in the book by the priest but we could not read it. As Michel died without leaving a child to inherit the farm it was passed on to his sister, Sigri. She lived from 1689 to 1759 and was married to Alf Larsson. They had a son by the name of Lars, who came into possession of the farm. He lived on the farm until he died in 1777 at the age of fifty or over. Lars' sister, Guri, was married to Ola Olsen of Lomen and they had eight children. Ola Olsen lived on the gaard for many years. The next owner was their third son Nils Olsen, (1757-1845). He came into ownership in 1801 at the age of 44 years. Nils was the grandfather of Nels Rovang. It becomes easy to trace the ownership of the farm to the date of 1850, when it was sold and the Nils Olsen family immigrated to America. We continue with the account given in the book. "Nils, the son of Ola Olsen of Lomen, married Jorand Halvorsdatte Bergji, (1756-1805.)" It also tells that "Nils Olsen bought a little piece of land over toward Egji that Torstine Oleson had purchased for himself." This indicates that besides owning Ursdale Gaard he also owned this piece of land. Nils and Jorand had eight children, two of whom died at an early age. Ola, the second child, born in 1779, inherited the gaard. He married Marit Arnesdatte of Loken in 1807. They had only one child, a son, Nils, who married Anna Halvorsdatte of Karstad at the West Slidre Church in Valdres on February 27, 1830. The first child born to Nils Olsen was a boy named Ola. The records which we secured from Hamar, Norway, state he was born March 7, 1831, baptized on April 4, 1831, and died April 14, 1831. He lived only 38 days. The second boy, born August 4, 1832, was named Ole. He was baptized at home August 23,

1832 and again at the church on September 2, 1832. The third boy was Halvar, born January 27, 1835. In America he was known as Oliver Nelson. The next child was Merit or Mary, born June 25, 1837. Nels was born July 19, 1839. Next in order came Kristen or Christian, born July 3, 1841; Sigri or Sarah born March 10, 1844; Jorand or Jane born March 24, 1846; and Arne or Arnold born August 7, 1848. The last child was born in America. He was Neele, born August 1, 1851.

One of the great events in the Nels Olson family came in 1850 when they immigrated to America. We do not know the date but the usual starting time was early in the spring as soon as the weather would permit. It was important that they reach their destination in time to plant a garden, work in the harvest fields and prepare for the winter. Just what led to the decision to make such an important move we can only guess. We do know however, that there was earnest discussion pro and con among the relatives and friends. There were articles in the newspapers giving information and advice. Sometimes former residents would return and they could give first-hand information about the new land. That our family received many letters from Wisconsin where friends or neighbors had settled, we know to be a fact. Before they left the home soil they knew they would have a glad welcome at the end of the journey. They mentioned Dane County and the town of Cambridge, Wisconsin, as the place they were most interested in. We know that a large settlement of Norwegians was located there.

Nels Olson realized that at the age of forty-two he was in the prime of life and if he were to make the venture, he must not delay. His family

had grown so that now he had eight children and he had their future to provide for. If he remained where he was, he could manage to live, but the future did not hold any bright hopes for himself or his family. In the new world he was assured he could get new land free and that his sons, too, could possess farms of their own in a few years. In this new land there were settlements of their own nationality, with people having similar customs and speaking their own language. Here were friends who would help him establish a new home, plant a garden or find employment for himself and his sons.

Having made his decision to immigrate, there would be months of preparation before one step could be taken on this great adventure. In the first place, food would have to be provided for an ocean voyage of from two to three months. The trip to Bergen might consume as much as a week's time. To provide food for ten people for so long a trip would require a lot of preparation and foresight. One of the most important foods to be prepared was flat bread. This could be baked weeks in advance and stored away. Barley flour and other flour such as they could get would be taken along to make grot or porridge on board the ship. There was also dried fish, dried beef, and salt pork. There was a variety of cheese and of course coffee. Some more perishable foods would be included such as potatoes, butter, and eggs. Candles for light were a necessity, as was soap for washing and a fine tooth comb for pests. The task of providing clothing for so large a family was almost as difficult a task as providing the food. Much of the sewing could be done by the mother as she found time. It was the custom for a tailor to come to the home and

make up suits of clothes for the men and boys of the household. He would live with the family until the work was done. The same provision would be made with a shoemaker, who provided the whole family with shoes.

To finance such an extended undertaking would require a lot of planning. We are certain that Nels Olson owned the gaard he had inherited and could dispose of it at a fair price. He may also have owned the land purchased by his grandfather near Egji. It is known that they borrowed money for the journey and that they had to work hard to pay back this loan as interest rates were very high. Whether this money was borrowed in Norway or from friends after they arrived in Wisconsin, we do not know.

It was customary to hold a public sale shortly before the time of departure in order to dispose of the live stock, farm tools and household goods.

Chests and boxes would be packed with clothing and necessities and a food box would be filled for the journey. In the meantime correspondence had to be carried on with a ship company at Bergen to determine the time of sailing for New York. Having fixed the time of sailing from Bergen, then arrangements had to be made with the captain of a boat that would leave a port on the Songe Fjord to connect with the boat leaving Bergen. Lastly arrangements had to be made with a neighbor or a friend who had a team and wagon to transport them from their home to the port on the Songe Fjord. This would be the first leg of the journey and would take several days.

As they made the final preparations and waited for the time of departure we can imagine some of

their thoughts and emotions. At the appointed hour of departure the neighbor would arrive with the wagon as early as possible because the journey was long and hard. Friends would come to bid them a last farewell. Some would lend a hand in the packing and loading of the wagon, and some unwittingly would hinder. When the wagon was loaded and the family comfortably seated, the driver was given a signal and the horses guided the wagon down a short but steep incline to the highway where a turn to the right made them face the west and the mountains. We can imagine the emotions that surged through their hearts as they glanced back to take one last look at the place that had been home to them for all of their lives. It was only for a few moments however, for their hearts were turned toward the future. They were eager for the new experiences that lay before them and to bring to reality their visions and dreams of the new land of America of which they had heard so much.

Nels Olson was the leader of this brave little band that set out on a pilgrimage that early April morning in 1850. He was tall, straight, well proportioned, broad shouldered and strong and healthy.

His wife and helpmate came from the gaard across the Slidre Fjord. Anna Karstad had been a childhood friend of Nils of Rovang. They attended the same church with their parents and must have participated in socal events together. Anna was of medium height, dark hair, and had a vitality that was to last for ninety-two years. They were married February 27, 1830 at the West Slidre Church in Valdres. This was on a Sunday and must have taken place in connection with the church service.

At the time of their journey to America they

had eight children living, one having died in infancy, by the name of Ola. The second child was named Ole, and he was now seventeen years old. Oliver, the second living child, was now fifteen. He was strong, active and quick to seize opportunities. Frequently tourists and visitors had come to the valley for fishing and travel and he often furnished them transportation by horse and carriage or perchance a cart. Later in life he took pride in telling his children of his accomplishments. The older children were often pressed into service in taking care of the younger ones. The voyage was a hard and taxing one especially for the mother. The daughter, Mary, was now thirteen and was given many tasks by the mother in helping in the household work.

The journey that this little band was embarking upon has been made by many travelers since that time, some of whom have left descriptions of what they saw and experienced. The first few miles they traveled was quite familiar to most of them. To their right was a heavy growth of pine forest, and to the left lay the Slidre Fjord along whose shore our road skirted. It did not take them long to travel the two and a half miles to the little village of Loken. The climb in elevation had been so gradual and the road so smooth that it had not been perceptible. The road then passed through a heavily wooded section as it followed the beautiful lake. It was nine miles to the next town, Oilo. The changing scene of lake, mountain and forest was ever new and inspiring. About a mile before reaching Oilo the road crossed over the river by a beautiful stone bridge. The ascent had been a little steeper, being two-hundred feet in nine miles. They came now to a very beautiful mountain lake, twelve miles long,

called Vangsjosen. About them were the towering mountains and before them a mountain lake. As they proceeded along the road they found the way seemingly blocked by steep foot hills that came down to the water's edge. However, when they drew closer they saw that a road had been hewn out of the solid rock next to the water. A railing of stone was built along the outer edge of the road. A roof had been constructed of heavy timbers to protect the travelers from falling rocks. If one could look up he would see cliffs rising almost perpendicular above him, and if he were to look down over the edge he would see the waters of the lake. This feat of engineering skill extended for three miles along the mountain side. The road closely followed the lake for about six miles to the next station, Grendaheim.

The old road turned south here so as to pass through the town of Vang. This was a place of considerable importance. It had an ancient Stave Kirke of unusual ecclesiastical architecture. This one had been exceptionally well preserved. This church has a history that is worthy of our notice. In 1844 it was sold to a German nobleman who had it taken down carefully, piece by piece, marked, transported to the Reisenberge Mountains in the province of Schlesia, Germany, near the town of Brickenberg, and then reassembled as it had been originally. This was done in honor of his wife. My wife's mother, Ernstine Krause Zimmerman, came from this church parish and was the second child baptized in this ancient church after it was reassembled. When in Germany in 1907, my wife and I visited it and sat in a pew, in company with an Aunt

who lived there. In Vang a new church stands where once the old church stood.

The road continued around the lake becoming steeper as it went. It had followed the lake for thirteen miles of grand scenery, but now the road left the lake and followed along the Baegna River again, twisting and turning as the water of the river rushed down the narrow valley. After a climb of ten and a half miles from the last station they came to the town of Skogstad. The pine forests were left behind and were replaced by birch and ash as the road climbed up steep grades for seven miles to an elevation of 3,300 feet, which was the summit of the pass. This was Mystuen. It was set on a level moorland where a settlement of Laps ran great herds of reindeer. The road continued over this pass with its wonderful view of snow-capped peaks surrounding it.

The decent toward the sea became very steep as the road dropped 3,300 feet in 42 miles as it followed another river called the Laera. The road twisted and turned as it repeatedly crossed the turbulent river as it tumbled down the narrow gorge to the sea. The scenery was sublime as one gazed around at the wild desolation and then up at the towering crags. After a rapid and crazy descent of seven miles the road came out upon a bleak and barren plain almost destitute of trees. Here was a magnificent view of the mountains, and the town of Maristuen. After leaving the town the road narrowed as it passed through a dense forest of pine trees, while the river cascaded down a narrow channel close by, and finally came out upon a plain made up of farms and other signs of civilization A short distance farther on was a port of Laerdal-

soren on the Songe Fjord. The town, composed of a wharf, warehouse, and a few dwellings, lay in a setting of marvelous beauty. Towering cliffs hemmed it in on three sides and shut out the sunshine for all but five months of the year. One side only was open to the sea, but the scene was one of unsurpassed beauty, for the Songe Fjord was one of the deepest and most beautiful fjords in Norway.

This first leg of their journey from their home to the port on the fjord was about seventy-five miles and was very tiring, especially for the children. The wagon had no springs or cushions to absorb the shocks and jolts. Lunches were eaten as they journeyed along and it is hoped that they reached the port by the end of the third day. Cold winds would sweep down upon them from snow-covered mountains, or the mid-day sun would make them uncomfortably warm. Before the grades became steep they all rode in the wagon, but when the ascent became steep the older children as well as the father, had to get out and walk to relieve the horses. It was quite customary for the men passengers to walk the steep grades in either direction, even if they had paid for their transportation. There must have been a genuine sigh of relief and a feeling of rejoicing when they caught sight of the fjord, and realized that the first part of their journey was safely past. There may have been a little time to wait here before the boat was ready to receive passengers and take them on the next leg of their journey to the port city of Bergen.

Laerdalsoren was an insignificant place, but it was at the end of one of the fingers of the longest fjord in Norway, the Songe. To be exact it was 136 miles long. It was also the deepest, being 700

fathoms or 4,200 feet deep. Scientists believe these great arms of the sea were gouged out of the mountainside by giant glaciers in the ice age. The same explanation is made for the lakes in the valley of the Baegna. Some of them are known as fjords, such as Strandefjord and Slidrefjord. What makes the fjords so beautiful is the abruptness of the drop from the high foothills to the sea. Glaciers on the mountain tops, in the valleys and the waterfalls that are precipitated over their sides and into the sea add more beauty to the scene. The vessels that sail upon the fjords seem to be dwarfed into insignificance by comparison with the magnitude of the scene. How much our family was impressed by all this grandeur we do not know. We know that they sailed down this silent and awesome passage, out to its mouth, and on to the beautiful city of Bergen. We will leave to others to tell of the beauty of the city. Our family's thoughts were on the journey ahead. They may have been impressed by the size and number of ships and fishing boats, but they were most concerned with locating the ship that was to be their home for many weeks to come. They no doubt had time to replenish their lunch box with dried and smoked fish, and to have walked about the city and marveled at the display of goods in the markets and shops. The very sight of so many people on the walks and traffic in the streets must have impressed them, especially the children.

We conclude from accounts given by members of the family that it was a sailing vessel bound for New York that gave them passage. Steam ships were in service at a later date, but not as early as this. We are told that this was a very long and stormy voyage — one of the most difficult ones

experienced by the crew. These sailing ships had been fitted out for passengers by laying floors below deck with bunks against the sides extending the length of the vessels. They were not too uncomfortable when provided with hay or straw pads. Boxes containing cooking utensils, food and clothing were placed in front of the bunks. Heavy baggage was placed in the hold. Several fireplaces were bricked up on the upper deck for light cooking. On each side little houses were built over the sides for toilet purposes. The Captain was the commanding officer of the ship. He usually divided the men into groups and made them responsible for keeping the quarters clean and tidy. The captain was required by law to furnish enough firewood and fresh water to last thirteen weeks. Everything usually went well as long as the weather was calm. When it stormed, the hatches were fastened down and ventilation was almost nil. Sometimes epidemics would break out and sickness take its toll of life. The majority of immigrants were young and healthy and got along well. The ships did not carry much freight at this time, though much was carried later. At this time iron ore and a little lumber were brought to New York, but nothing is said of fish.

Many of the facts in this account were taken from two books by Theodore C. Belgen, "Norwegian Immigration" and "The American Transition." Some may contend that meals could be secured from the ship, but that occurred mostly after 1850.

The landing in New York must have come with a feeling of relief, especially to the parents, but to all it brought eager anticipation as to what experiences awaited them in this new world. The disembarking station was at Castle Garden. This was a

large building at the waterfront, established by the Commissioner of Immigration of the State of New York. Its purpose was to protect immigrants from crooks who swindled and deceived the traveling public. Here the immigrants could receive advice and help free from men who spoke the Norwegian language. Food and other necessities were purchased for the trip west.

MARY ANN BREN

Mary Ann Bren, the wife of Oliver Nelson, and our mother, was born and raised in Norway in the valley of the Baegna River in the section known as Valdres and the parish of North Aurdal. They were born and grew up about thirty miles from each other. Freydenlund, which was her native town, was first a stage station, and later a depot for the railroad. The railroad did not exist when she lived there but was built at a later time. The only way to reach the outside world was by a highway built and maintained by the government for the traveling public and also for the use of the mail service, which connects Bergen with Oslo and other points. Along this beautiful macadamized highway the Bren family was driven on their trip to Bergen where they set sail for America.

On a visit to this town of Freydenlund to see the Bren farm, we were entertained by our uncle, Ole Bren. As we expressed a desire to see the old farm, he took us one day to what we supposed to be the Baegna River, but when we approached it, we could see no bridge, for the river had widened out into a lake, or more correctly the Strandefjord. Ole had a rowboat hidden among some bushes which he secured and by means of which he rowed us to the

other shore. We walked up a winding path until we came to a group of buildings and cultivated fields. This was the Bren farm. The house was two stories high with a lean-to for a kitchen. The house gave evidence of never having had a coat of paint. We did not see the inside of the house because the occupants were absent. A small log house stood not far from the main house. It had a chimney which indicated it was used for living purposes, or it may have been a bakery. The barn had two large doors that would make it possible for a load of hay to be driven into the barn. Plenty of stones were lying about, but the yard seemed quite clear of them. They had been piled at the edge or sides of the fields, somewhat after the fashion of New England. To one who was familiar with farms with broad acres in America, these fields seemed like little patches. The forests too, seemed to be crowding up to the fields and buildings. Between the forest and the rocks, the farmer had a hard job of preparing any land for cultivation. It was seeding time when we were there, and the farmer's tools that we saw were lying about where he had stopped working. It was very evident that he was doing this work by hand. We did not see any cattle about, so came to the conclusion that they had been taken to the "saeter" for the summer months and that the women of the home were taking care of them. We remember that our mother related that when she was a girl she served as a milkmaid in company with another girl. She told how they drove the cows into a shelter, milked them, made cheese of the milk and make butter of the cream. This primitive life stood out in contrast to farming as we knew it in

Minnesota. What we saw helped us to understand why so many people came to the New World.

A few years ago we wrote to the pastor of the local church in Norway inquiring concerning the church records, and found that in the record mother's name was written Ann Mary Bren. She later changed it to Mary Ann. The record of birth was January 23, 1845. Our record in the Bible has January 27, 1845 as her birthday. If she had remained in Norway, she would have assumed her father's given name of Halvor, and adding to it, son, forming the name of Halvorson, which would perhaps become Oliverson on coming to America. This shows how easily names can become changed.

Our grandfather on mother's side was Halvor Knudsen Bren, who was born on the family farm known as Bondell, at Freydenlund, Norway, in 1803. He was united in marriage to our grandmother, Berit Halvorsdatte in 1826. To their union were born seven children, three sons and four daughters, Kjertrude, February 14, 1827; Knudt, July 7, 1828; Sari, November 12, 1829; Grunhill, June 5, 1832; Halvor, November 6, 1836; Ole, October 20, 1840 and Ann Mary, January 23, 1845. Halvor Knudson Bren, husband and father, died at his birthplace, February 29, 1864, at the age of 60 years. His body lies at rest in a nearby cemetery where he was buried March 15, 1864.

Berit Bren, wife and mother, immigrated to America with her family shortly after the death of her husband. It may have been in 1865 or a little later. They first settled at Grand Meadow, Minnesota. Berit Halvorsdatte - Bren died at Plainview, Minnesota. The date of death is not known, but it is believed to have been about 1880. Her body lies

at rest in Greenwood Cemetery, Plainview, Minnesota.

Our uncle Ole Bren was living in Norway where we visited him. He never married. He had made two trips to America, but returned to his native land to spend his last years. He had lived in Grand Meadow, Minnesota and Toronto, South Dakota, where he had homesteaded a quarter section of land. He had stayed at our home for long periods of time so I knew him quite well. He was quite tall, I would judge about six feet and one inch. He was a little stoop-shouldered but in good health. He died July, 1921 at the age of eighty, in the village of Lien, and was buried in the Reinlid churchyard.

FAMILY NAMES

Oliver Nelson's first name is worth considering. He was baptized Halvor, which is a common Norwegian name. As Halvor would seem strange to the English speaking Norwegians, it could be easily changed to the more familiar form of Oliver, and this seems to be what was done.

In those early days immigrants were quick to adopt American names and customs. This is seen in the family name of Nelson. Oliver Nelson's father's name was not Nelson but Olsen, which in the Norwegian means that he was the son of Ole. He lived on the Rovang gaard and this served as the family name, so his name would have been Nels the son of Ole, of the Rovang Gaard. If father had remained in Norway he would have been known as Halvor, the son of Nels, of the Rovang gaard. On coming to America he might have chosen to follow the custom of others and kept the Rovang name as his brother Nels did, but he chose the American

custom and took the name Nelson, as the rest of the family did. This helps to explain the paradox of why he was called Nelson when his father had the name Olsen.

RECORD OF URSDALE GAARD

RECORD OF URSDALE GAARD

(In 1612 owner of Ursdale was GUTORM of Rovang)

- Engebret
- (OLA owned farm in 1664)
  - Marte married Nils Gudbrandson of Hegge
  - Anna married Ulf Karstad
  - Andris lived on Ranisaete

(GURO, Ola's daughter married Hans Michelson)

- Michel, B.1683 married Sigri, daughter of Gutorm Killed by Knute Myre
- (SIGRI, 1689-1759 married Alf Larsson of Gryte 1676-1761)
  - Berit, B.1689 married Knute Olsen of Sjel
  - Kari B.1693

- Lars owned gaard Died 1777 at age of 50 or over. No children
- (GURI Alfsdotte married Ola Olsen of Lomen)
  - Ola B.1744
  - Sigri 1746
  - Berit 1753
  - Alv 1754
  - (NILS Olsen of Lomen 1757-1845 married Jorand Halvarsdotte of Bergji 1756-1805 Came into ownership of gaard in 1801 Also bought piece of land near Egie)
    - Berit 1760
    - Hans 1793
    - Anne 1764

- Lars (died) 1778-1780
- (OLA B.1779 married Marit Arnesdotte of Loken in 1807)
  - Sigri 1783 died young
  - Guro 1786
  - Sigri 1791
  - Halvar 1793
  - Lars 1797
  - Alv 1800

(NILS Olson B. Feb. 25, 1808 Married on Feb. 27, 1830 to Anna Halvorsdotte Karstad, B. June 2, 1809, baptised June 14, 1809, Record of her confirmation in 1824 at age of 15. He sold gaard in Norway and came to America in 1850 at age of 42)

- Ola Mar.7 1831 died Apr.14 1831
- Ole Aug.4 1832
- Halvar (Oliver) Jan.27 1835
- Marit (Mary) June 25 1837
- Nils (Nels) July 19 1839
- Kristen (Christian) July 3 1841
- Sigri (Sarah) Mar 10 1844
- Jorand (Jane) Mar 24 1846
- Arne (Arnold) Aug.7 1848
- Neele Aug 1 1851

CHAPTER TWO

AMERICA

After being released from quarantine and having been through customs, Nels Olson with his family and baggage was placed on board a river boat which took them up the Hudson river to Albany, where they were transferred to an Erie canal boat which took them up the Mohawk Valley to Buffalo. The barge was loaded heavy with passengers and freight which made progress slow for the immigrants who were anxious to get to the country of free land. Arriving at Buffalo they were transferred to a lake vessel which was westward bound and would land them near their final destination.

Their journey on the Great Lakes was pleasant. No more did they see the mountainous waves of the turbulent Atlantic. The course was always westward, passing from one of the Great Lakes to another with their beautiful shoreline of green timber. Ports of call were made at Cleveland, Detroit and many other little villages as they touched shore. While these American cities were of interest and drew much attention, Nels Olson and family were particularly attracted by a little settlement on the shoreline of Wisconsin known as Milwaukee Landing. Milwaukee, in the spring of 1850, was a settlement of a few little stores, but was important to the travelers of that time because it had a good ship landing where the immigrants disembarked to find their way into the interior.

WISCONSIN

It was a happy occasion for the Olson family when they were again on solid American soil and they uttered a prayer of Thanksgiving that the long voyage was over and all members of the family had been in good health. From Milwaukee Nels Olson and family continued their journey westward over the Madison trail to the little settlement of Cambridge in Dane County.

The means of travel was mostly by oxen but occasionally horses were in use. Many kinds of vehicles were found, most common among them was the two-wheeled ox cart, settlers' wagons and covered wagons. Many of the cart wheels were cut from large saw logs. Steel bands served as tires. As axle grease had not yet been developed, lard was used to grease the wheel axles, which were of wood. As the lard became a little dry it set up a squeaking howl that could be heard long before the travelers could be seen coming down the trail. The two-wheeled ox cart was loaded high with the worldly possessions of the family as the journey got under way over the newly made trail to the pioneer settlement. The driver walked beside the ox, directing him in a language the animal seemed to understand. The family followed on foot over wooded hills and difficult trails which were cut through timber and in some places they were so boggy that logs were used to form a corduroy roadway to make passage possible. This was Nels' introduction to rural America. There was rejoicing when they reached Cambridge and were reunited with good and kind friends who had preceded them to America, who had aided in making their coming to the new world possible

and who would further help them in their efforts to find free land. To do this it would be necessary for Nels and family to migrate further west to a newer part of the country, for all the land in the vicinity of this new settlement and all along the trail they traveled was dotted with log cabins of the settlers.

Cambridge was a settlement of Scandinavians and was the first haven for those migrating from Scandinavia to the wilderness of mid-America. It is here that Nels Olson and his family made their home for some time to replenish their exhausted funds and earn money to purchase oxen, wagon and other equipment to enable them to continue their journey westward. In order to accomplish this, Nels Olson and his two sons, Ole, eighteen, and Oliver, fourteen, secured work as farm helpers at the prevailing wage of fifty cents per day. The family shared in the social and religious activities of the new community and were present at the forming and organization of a Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal Church Society, which built its own church in 1852 and thus they established the first church of this new denomination in the world. This church organization later spread throughout America and to Scandinavia. While Nels Olson and family did not become members of the new church, due to their intended short stay, they, nevertheless, became converted to its principles and were instrumental in promoting and establishing the new church organization in the community which later became their home and where they worshipped for many years.

On August 1, 1851, the tenth child was born to Nels and Anna Olson, and he was given the name of Neele. He became the first American citizen in

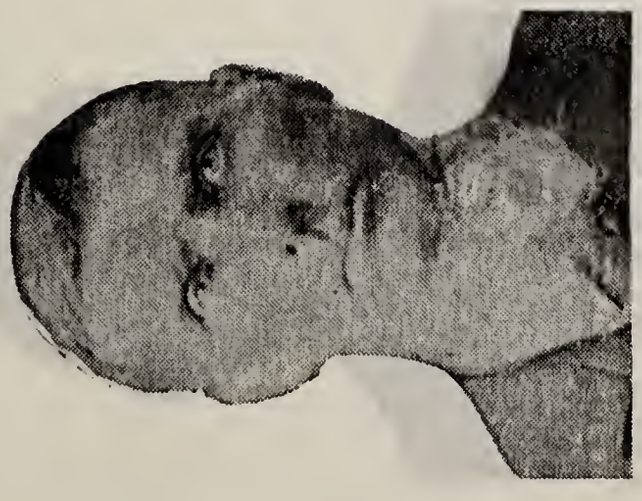
ANNA HALVORS - OLSON
1809 - 1900

NELS ROVANG - OLSON
1808 - 1879

ANNA S. NELSON
1837 - 1892

2070645

OLIVER NELSON
1835 - 1916



OLE NELSON
1832 - 1900

SARAH NELSON - STAVNEY
1844 - 1905

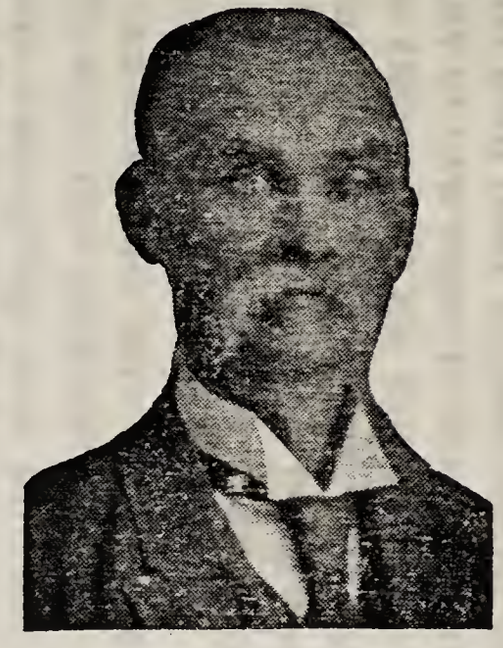
ROVANG CHRISTIAN NELSON
1841 - 1864

NELS NELSON ROVANG
1839 - 1917

PORTRAIT
UNOBTAINABLE

JANE NELSON
1846 - 1872

ARNOLD E. NELSON
1848 - 1913



NEELE NELSON
1851 - 1911

the Olson family. Other members of the family would gain their citizenship by naturalization. After a stay of two years in this pleasant little settlement, Nels Olson and his family were prepared to move farther west and nearer the wilderness and free land. With the savings from their small earnings, Nels Olson purchased a yoke of oxen and a settler's wagon which he converted into a prairie schooner for the overland trip. Early one morning in April, 1852, with the schooner loaded heavily with their family belongings and provisions, the oxen were given the command and the journey westward was under way. Their next stop would be Decorah, in the new state of Iowa, which was another center for Norwegian land seekers. Mile after mile the oxen plodded on, through the valleys and over the wooded hills drawing the heavily loaded schooner. Tied to it by a lead rope was the family cow that provided daily milk. Trailing also, were the children of the family on foot.

The road led through beautiful valleys where the land had been taken up a few years earlier. Some of the new farms they passed along the trail displayed "For Sale" signs, but with funds sufficient only for his present journey, Nels Olson could not consider the purchase of any land but must continue westward until he reached a section of the country where land would be free. The days of travel were long and the nights were spent on the trailside near a homestead where the mother and daughters sometimes found shelter within the settler's cabin. While the oxen were staked out to graze, the family prepared their evening meal over a camp fire. Eggs and other provisions were secured from settlers along the way. After many days of

travel they reached the mighty Mississippi River, of which they had heard so much, and viewed the broad expanse from its high banks. River boats passed frequently carrying freight and passengers to and from points on the river. The high bluffs appeared as small mountains and extended as far as the eye could see. Their last night in Wisconsin was spent on the banks of the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien. The next day the oxen would draw the wagon onto the ferry for a trip across the big river to land at McGregor in the new state of Iowa. From there the trail led upward along the bluff until tableland was reached, then northwestward to Decorah.

IOWA

Here Nels Olson and his family would stay for some time, doing farm work in order to again replenish the family funds which had been spent for equipment and travel. Considerable money must be earned before the family could make their next and last long trek into the free land country. Decorah was a gathering place for Norwegian immigrants, a distribution point and here the trail divided, some people continuing westward, while others took a more northerly course which would lead them into Minnesota Territory.

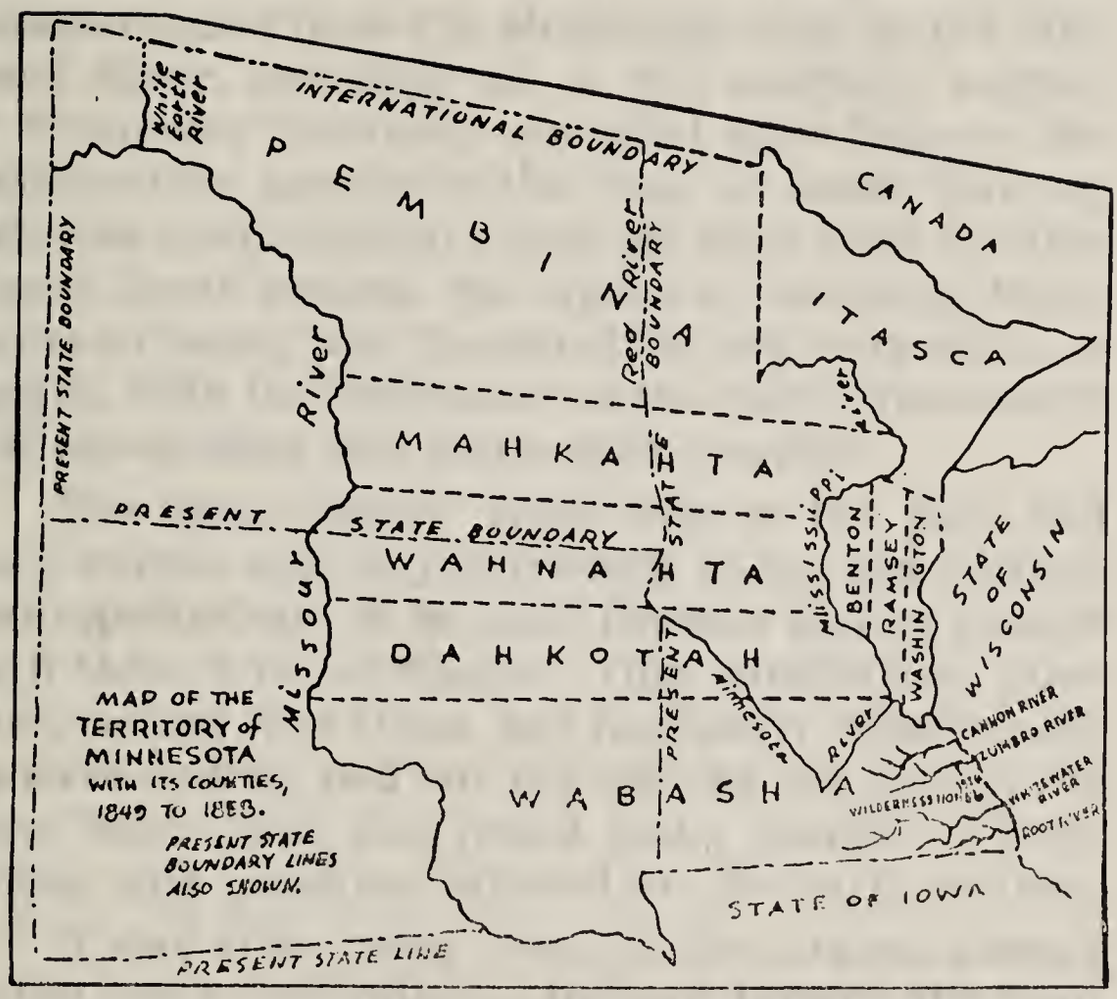
Nels Olson and his oldest son, Ole, now twenty, and Oliver, seventeen, soon found work and their funds again began to grow. All their spare time was taken up in preparing for their move into the promised country. As money became available, the equipment needed to start farming was purchased. Early in April, 1854, and after two years of preparation, Nels Olson and family were ready again to migrate.

This time they would continue their travel until the country of free land was finally reached. The perplexing question that they had to settle was where to go to find the best land. Many of the settlers who had gone further west in Iowa sent back glowing reports of rich prairie lands so level that every acre in a farm could be cultivated. Other reports were that rich prairie and timber land would soon be opened for settlement in the new Indian country of Minnesota Territory.

MINNESOTA TERRITORY

When the day came for the continuance of their migration the Nels Olsons headed in a northerly direction over trails leading from Decorah, as they decided that Minnesota Territory might be the place of their future home. The caravan now consisted of two covered wagons drawn by a yoke of oxen and a team of horses. The wagons were heavily loaded with a breaking plow and other farm equipment to till the soil and tools to construct a home in which to live. Included was wheat for seed and for family use, garden seeds and oats, corn for early seeding and planting, as well as their household effects and provisions. A crate of chickens found a place on one of the wagons. The family cow that provided the daily milk was led by a rope, while the family followed on foot.

The wagon trail led almost directly north across patches of open prairie, winding around groves of trees, and past many shacks of settlers who were sowing their small fields to wheat and breaking the prairie sod for larger fields the next growing season.



As Nels Olson and his family crossed the state line into Minnesota Territory they also entered the unorganized county of Wahpashaw (Wabasha). Wahpashaw County embraced a vast territory extending from the Iowa line north to a point near St. Paul and from the Mississippi west to the Missouri River, a distance of 560 miles. The Wilderness Home is shown in the southeast portion of the map. The nearest settler lived eight miles to the north.

Nels Olson learned from settlers that he and his family had crossed the state line and were in the unorganized county of Wahpashaw, Territory of Minnesota, the home of the Sioux Indian. This county embraced a vast territory created by an act of Congress and was all that part of Minnesota Territory lying south of a line drawn due west from

the mouth of the Saint Croix River to the Iowa State boundary, and from the Mississippi west to the Missouri River, including all of the southern portion of Minnesota Territory and what later became the southeastern portion of the State of South Dakota, with the northwestern corner of what later became Pierre, South Dakota, the capital of that state. Wahpashaw County was five hundred and sixty miles in length. With the settlement of the State, this county was sub-divided into sixty-eight counties.

The Sioux Indian Tribe who in the past had been warlike and very unfriendly to the new settlers was reported now to be more friendly and no trouble with them was anticipated. This information, however, caused Nels Olson and his family considerable concern as they had not yet met the red men of the New World, but had heard many stories of their crimes and cruelties inflicted on the early settlers.

It was after many days of slow travel, always to the north, according to the sun, fording the Root River, creeks and water holes, passing endless numbers of settlers' shacks and planted fields, that they reached a trading post consisting of a store and a few small shacks, which later became the village of Chatfield. This was the end of the wagon trail. From there it was necessary for Nels Olson to blaze a new trail northward through territory, much of which had not yet been traveled by a white man. It was here that he established a temporary camp. The covered wagon served as shelter for the family, and the cattle were staked out to live on the new grown grass.

After everything had been done to make his family comfortable, leaving the eldest son Ole to care for them during his absence, Nels Olson and

his second son Oliver, with a limited amount of provisions, set out on their horses, riding bareback, to survey a new trail in search of suitable land on which to lay claim. Continuing their northerly course they passed the last settler's cabin a mile out from the Trading Post. Entering the wilderness country, the riders traveled for several days over prairies and wooded lands, sleeping at night in the open, with blankets as their only shelter. After crossing a small river, known later as Whitewater, they came to an extended prairie area. Here they found surveyor's stakes recently driven. A search over the prairie failed to locate the surveying party who had so recently made the survey. It was later learned that this survey was in the Township of Plainview. In their travel over prairie and through the timber they encountered groups of Indians but they had not met a white person since they had left Chatfield Trading Post. They did not know where they were nor where to go to find information. Further travel to the northeast brought them to heavy timber and the bluffs of a great river, which was the Mississippi. They descended into the valley over an Indian trail which they followed for several miles and which led them to a white settlement on the banks of the river. This settlement was named Wahpashaw Landing after the chief of the Sioux tribe and was made up of the trading post, Land Office and small shops. It was a regular stopping place for river boats, which in later years meant a great deal to the many settlers who were to come and develop the country.

Indian tepees were seen everywhere, but the first white traders built their log shacks on the

banks near the river, where Indians often called asking for some of the white man's food.

Chief Wahpashaw was quite friendly to the white settlers and often came to the little settlement from his wigwam on Sand Prairie. In 1850 the name of the settlement was shortened to Wabasha, and became important as it was the fur trading post for a large territory. Nels Olson was informed at the Land Office that land on the high prairie to the northwest would soon be open for settlement. This would include land in both Plainview, and what was later known as Highland Township. After replenishing their provisions, Nels Olson and his son returned to the high prairie which brought them again to the survey stakes in Plainview Township. After a hurried inspection of this land and that to the north which was in the unsurveyed part which later became Highland Township, it was their decision that the land in Highland Township would be best for them, perhaps because it was more like their Norway home, with its heavy stand of timber and open patches of prairie.

The timber would provide material for their home and farm buildings and the open prairie could easily be enlarged and put into crops. The spring of cool water in the draw would provide an abundance of water for the home and stock.

Returning to their camp at the Chatfield Trading Post, they prepared at once to move the family and effects to the land that would be their new home in the wilderness, and where they were destined to remain the rest of their lives. With wagons well loaded with provisions, the last miles of their long journey were undertaken, blazing a new trail over

virgin prairie with its groves of oak timber and water courses that had to be forded. Passing through the newly surveyed but unpopulated Plainview Township and into the timbered land to the north, they were the first settlers to mark the prairie soil with the wheel of a wagon. Here they halted and made camp in a little clearing. It was here that they would build their log shanty and a shelter for the cattle and stay until a selection of land could be made.

After a journey of thousands of miles over sea and land, and four years of uncertainty, Nels Olson and his family had at last reached their destination, a country of free land, free for the pleasure of making it a home. Here they would build their home and clear the land for crops. Here their children on reaching majority could also possess some of this land. With the coming of new settlers, a new community of people would be established, with its farm homes, churches, schools and stores. Nels Olson and his sons again traveled over the area surveying the land in Highland Township for the purpose of selecting that on which to lay claim. They were the first and only settlers on the prairie and could have their choice. There was no one to contest their claim in early May, 1854. After viewing the land, Nels Olson's choice, however, was a clearing in the southern portion of Highland Township where they had squatted. This selection was probably made because of its heavy oak timber and its rich black soil underlaid with clay.

Their first work on the land was the turning of sod for a vegetable garden after which came the construction of a log shanty to house the family. Logs were cut from the nearby grove for the walls

and support for the flat roof of heavy sod. Shelter was also provided for the horses and cattle. This completed, the oxen were yoked to a big breaking plow to turn the sod and prepare the land for next year's crop of wheat. In addition to this, the men worked in the timber, felling trees and preparing logs for a more permanent home to be built the following year. The click of the axe and adz could be heard long after the day's plowing was done. Two sides of the logs were hewn to make a smooth surface both inside and outside of the cabin. Corner logs were mortized and cut to pattern to make a strong structure. Work in the timber continued throughout the fall season and into the winter to provide the number of logs necessary to build a two room cabin. Garden seeds planted early provided vegetables for the table. Prairie hay cut with a scythe was stacked near the stable to provide for the stock.

When winter came it found the family in their shanty home, well prepared to endure the rigors of the new land. This was their first home in America. It had a dirt floor and homemade lumber fitted in the openings for windows and doors. They were satisfied with their first summer's work. Next year a new and better home would be built and the first wheat crop would be harvested.

The early spring of 1855 loomed promising for the growing of crops, as there had been a heavy fall of snow, and spring rains had put the sod breaking in good condition for cultivation. Seeding was done by hand broadcasting, using one and one-half bushels per acre. The wheat harvest came in early August, the stand was heavy and almost waist high. After cutting with a cradle, the grain was bound

into bundles with bands of straw. After curing in the shock, the wheat was threshed on the frozen ground with a flail. This was the first wheat grown on the prairie and yielded thirty-five bushels to the acre.

FROM PLAINVIEW NEWS, April 18, 1877. "The first grain grown on the prairie was done by Nels Olson who sowed a small piece of land to wheat in 1855, which returned thirty-five bushels to the acre."

In the meantime logs for the new home were put into place. The roof was made flat and supported by logs on which was placed hay and heavy layers of prairie sod to absorb the rainfall. This was later converted to a gable roof of timbers and split shingles. This two room house remained their home for several years.

Crop conditions were very favorable as the land was blessed with an abundance of winter snow and spring rains. Quoting from THE PLAINVIEW NEWS, February 26, 1943: "It is recalled by old timers that in the winter of 1856, the snow was piled in huge drifts early in September and continued until the middle of May."

Prosperity came to the settlers as the community developed and markets were provided for their produce. Nels Olson made extensive improvements on his farm in 1870 by the construction of a six room frame house, as well as a large barn and other farm buildings to care for the greatly enlarged number of cattle, hogs and sheep. A great deal of satisfaction must have come to Nels Olson the last days of his life as he reviewed his accomplishments since he came to America twenty-nine years earlier.

The Olson family industriously toiled to improve the land by grubbing out the tree stumps and clearing the land for the big breaking plow which year after year enlarged the cultivated fields to nearly one hundred acres. The well painted farm buildings in a setting of virgin timbers as a background created a pleasant view, and was one of the many fine farm homes on Greenwood Prairie.

THE PASSING OF NELS OLSON

Nels Olson died December 28, 1879 at the age of 79 years, a devout Christian and a member of the Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal Church of Oakwood. Those surviving were a daughter, five sons and his life companion, Anna, who, following his death, continued to reside on the homestead with her son, Arnold E. until her death March 4, 1901 at the advanced age of ninety-one years. Perpetual care has been provided for his last resting place which is in the family lot in Greenwood Cemetery, Plainview, Minnesota.

CHAPTER THREE

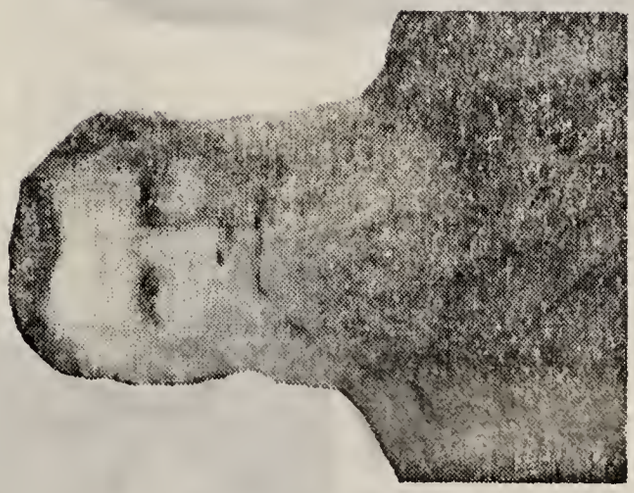
* *

OLIVER NELSON

Oliver Nelson was a strong and rugged man; at the age of sixteen he was six feet tall, broad of shoulders and was physically fit to combat the many hardships that would come to him as a pioneer in a new land. His home was with his parents where he labored hard with other members of the family, in establishing a home in the wilderness. He was determined to obtain land for himself also; because of his age he could not pre-empt land in his own rights, but he could, however, claim rights as a squatter. If he were successful in holding the land against claim-jumpers until he reached his majority, he then could file pre-emption claim to his squatter's homestead.

Oliver Nelson chose for his future home a tract of land to the north adjoining that of his parents. Nearly one-half of this land was covered with a heavy stand of oak timber, while the rest was rolling prairie that could be broken up for crops. Inas much as this land would not be surveyed until the following year, the boundaries of his claim could not be determined until that time. His first improvement on the land was the construction of a small dugout in the northern slope of a clearing. In his spare time he felled trees and prepared the logs for the building of a more substantial house the next year.

ANNA OLIVERSON - NELSON
1845 - 1913

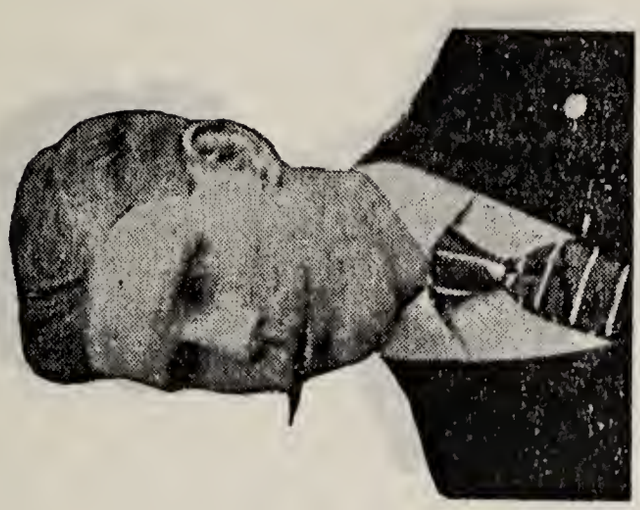


OLIVER NELSON
1835 - 1916

ANTON C. NELSON
1866 - 1941

MARY C. NELSON
1864 - 1902

NICHOLAS H. NELSON
1859 - 1939



OTIS C. NELSON
1875 -

ALBERT NELSON
1872 -

JOHN H. NELSON
1871 - 1914

CYRUS A. NELSON
1883 -

ALFRED C. NELSON
1879 -

JOSEPH S. NELSON
1877 -

ANOTHER FAMILY ARRIVED

The Nelson family was not to remain long alone in the new land. Rumbling over the newly made trails in the fall of 1854, came a covered wagon drawn by oxen, approaching across the small open prairie from a southerly direction. The driver of the oxen was Andrew Helgerson, who was bringing his family consisting of his wife, a daughter, Ingeborg, and two sons, Hans and Andrew to the new land to establish a home. The wagon was loaded with simple farm tools, household necessities and wheat for seed, while the family followed on foot leading their cow. The Helgersons had migrated from Norway in 1850, first settling in Wisconsin, then Iowa, where they stayed for a time, after which they followed the trail into Minnesota Territory.

About this time, a crew of surveyors, under the direction of M. G. Kerick of the Surveyor General's office for the Territory of Minnesota, completed the survey of Plainview Township in readiness for the many new settlers that would arrive the next year.

Quoting from the Wabasha County History of 1884:

> "The Township of Plainview was first settled by A. T. Sharp, E. B. Eddy, Thomas Todd, William Baatman and David Campbell. They arrived in the spring of 1855, and on May 21st., with one accord, agreed that this was the land they had sought and decided to remain. They at once began the construction of domiciles for their families and having provided these, commenced operation for agricultural improvements. A Norwegian by the name of Nels Olson had arrived before them and had settled

in the northeast corner of the town and he was probably the first to break sod in the town. The soil of the country is varied. Along the banks of the streams, it is somewhat sandy, but the prairies have a rich dark loam with gravelly subsoil, producing all kinds of grain and vegetables in abundance. The surface of the country along the Mississippi is hilly, while back from the river it is rolling prairie."

Andrew Helgerson, after inspecting all the prairie land, moved on and laid claim, as a squatter, to a quarter section in the eastern portion of Plainview Township. This land became later the farm of John Safford, located two miles east of what later became the Township of Plainview.

Again, quoting from the Wabasha History:

"In the spring of 1855, in the absence of Mr. Helgerson, his family was driven from their claim by covetous Yankees, who wished to establish thereon a townsite. The Helgersons, like their neighbors, the Ole Nelson family, did not remove far, but again began the work of home building, this time on the northwest quarter of section four, about two miles north of Plainview. They were not again molested."

The Helgerson family lived in peace and contentment following the settlement of the Indian Script by the Government. They built a fine home on their land which became one of the most valued farms in the Township. There the family resided for the following fifty years.

THE LOG HOUSE AND THE FIRST CROP

Oliver Nelson, together with his parents, had traveled many thousands of miles and endured great

hardships in the search for free land and he was determined that this land which he had at last found, and on which he had established squatter's rights, should some day become his farm. He realized that in order to hold this land against claim jumpers, he must establish a home thereon by constructing a log house, and by clearing more land for wheat crops. Such improvements would be necessary to make a creditable showing when called upon for final proof to his pre-emption claim, which would make this land his to hold and to own.

The spring of 1855 brought a favorable outlook for a wheat crop, which with that of his father's would be the first to be grown on the new prairie. He carefully prepared his few acres of breaking and sowed them to wheat. The summer days were pleasant with ample rainfall, with the result that a bumper crop of wheat was harvested. After threshing this precious grain, it was carefully stored with that of his father's to provide for family use and seed for enlarged fields the next season.

In the spring, Oliver Nelson began the construction of a more permanent home from the logs he had prepared. His selection of a site for the new home was in a little clearing under the overhanging branches of a giant oak. A flowing spring, not far away, provided sparkling clear water. The new house contained only one room and was fifteen by seventeen feet in size. The logs were hewn to make a smooth surface both inside and outside. All corner logs were mortised to make a sturdy structure. Slivers of logs imbedded in clay chinked the open places between the logs to make the house warm. The window openings were fitted with panels of hewn boards which could be removed for light and

ventilation. The door openings were also fitted with hewn lumber, and were hinged to the jams by strap leather. Poplar logs were placed on the upper logs of the walls to support the flat roof of meadow hay and sod.

When the government survey of Highland Township was made during the summer of 1855, Oliver Nelson learned that his log house was located in the east central portion of the Northeast Quarter of Section Thirty-two. He was satisfied, however, with the boundaries of his claim, as it was all good land, and some day the timber would be removed and all the land made tillable.

NEW SETTLERS

It was early in May that the Nelson family completed their first year on the new land. They were the only settlers on the prairie until the arrival of the Helgersons late in the year 1854, and the Sharp party early in 1855. Many new settlers came in the summer of 1855. Among them were General Seth McCarty, J. T. Wadleigh, Russell Carpenter, Thomas G. Bolton, Benjamin Pickett, Milton Smith, G. W. Sylvester and Rodman Burchard. Among those settling in Elgin Township were George W. Farrar, H. H. Thurton, George and Curtis Bryant. Abraham Browett and Rollins families arrived early the following spring. Patrick Mc Donough and John Canfield were the only settlers taking squatters' claims in Highland Township. Their claims were in the northeast corner. The new settlers on the prairie now numbered thirty families. It was apparent that all the prairie land would soon be taken.

GAME

Wild game was in abundance in the new land. Deer could be had at almost any time and it provided much of the meat during the autumn and winter months. Prairie chickens were everywhere, and from the timber the drumming partridge furnished many choice meals. Oliver Nelson was fond of hunting and a crack shot with his trusty patch and ball muzzle loading rifle. Often he related how he picked the heads off the prairie chickens and partridges. The snow-shoe hare, so abundant at that time, soon disappeared and the cottontail rabbit migrated into the country becoming very numerous. The white tailed jackrabbit first appeared in 1850 and has remained. Ducks and geese were plentiful along creeks and rivers, but did not tempt Oliver Nelson, whose only weapon was a rifle. The crow did not appear until the country was settled. The majestic timber wolf was the king of the predatory animals on the prairie and was a great sight as he trotted unafraid and unconcerned over the winter snow. The prairie wolves were in great number and nightly during the coldest part of the first winter joined in a concert of yelps, yips and long howls from the nearby hills. The big timber wolf often added to the chorus.

FILING THE CLAIMS

May, 1856, marked the second anniversary of the coming of the Nelsons to the new land and they maintained squatter's rights to their claim. Only once was Oliver threatened by a claim-jumper who came to him and declared that he was going to jump his claim. In answer Oliver Nelson told him in no uncertain words that he could jump his claim

if he wished but if he did it would probably be the last jump he ever made. This claim-jumper disappeared. Now of legal age, Oliver was eligible to file an application for pre-emption on his squatter land. Nels Olson and his sons, Ole and Oliver, journeyed to Wahpashaw (later the name was changed to Wabasha) on foot, following the Indian trail over the ridge and into the valley of the Mississippi to the Land Office located in the little settlement there to file pre-emption claims on the separate pieces of land on which they claimed squatters' rights. They were greatly disappointed their applications were refused. They were informed that that land they had laid claim to had been set aside in a treaty with the Sioux Indian Tribe, as half-breed, or Indian script land, which permitted only those of Indian blood to become owners. The officials of the Land Office, however, informed them that negotiations were under way between the government officials and the Sioux Indian Tribe to relinquish all Indian claims to the land which would permit the filing of pre-emption claims by the settlers. Greatly disheartened with the circumstances that prevented them from laying stronger claims to their land, the Nelsons returned home and continued to improve their land in the hope that they would eventually become owners of it. They realized that their land was open to Indian settlement and if their claims were contested by the Indians, they would be removed and all their labor and improvements would be a total loss. Fortunately the Indians did not consider land of much value and did not contest the claims of Oliver and his father, who were permitted to continue living there peacefully.

Several settlers in East Plainview Township,

however, were less fortunate because Indians demanded their rights to the land the squatters were holding. Of the many settlers that came to the new country in 1856 there were only seven who took squatter's rights in Highland Township. They were Capt. John and William Burnham; Charles H. Dawley; Samuel H. and Robert M. Doane; W. L. Cleveland; James Felton and E. G. Smith. George Burnham arrived in 1857. Two years later Mr. Smith built and operated a small store on his land which became known as Smithville and was a stopping point on the Plainview-Wabasha stage line.

THE FIRST WEDDING

The first wedding in the new settlement took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Helgerson iin 1856 when their daughter, Ingebor, was united in marriage to Oliver Nelson. Ingebor Helgerson was born at Valdres, Norway, January 17, 1839 and came to America with her parents in 1850. To their union were born six children: Anna Sofia, October 17, 1857; Nicholas H., August 13, 1859; Mary, April 3, 1861; Mary C. April 24, 1864; Anton C. March 28, 1866 and Inga, October 26, 1868. Three of the children died in infancy: Anna Sofia, January 8, 1869; Mary, September 3, 1863 and Inga, January 15, 1869.

A great sorrow came to the Oliver Nelson family and the settlers of the community on October 28, 1868 when the wife and mother, Ingebor Helgerson-Nelson, died due to complications in childbirth. The mortality rate was very high in the pioneer days, often due to lack of medical care at childbirth, while adults and children alike were afflicted with the dread diseases of cholera morbus, smallpox and diphtheria.

THE FIRST VILLAGE

The first village on the prairie came into being in East Plainview Township in 1856 with the establishment of a small store dispensing groceries and other commodities to the new settlers. A post office was established in the store and the village was given the name of Greenville. The existence of Greenville was short, as it was settled on Indian script land which prevented the promoters from securing a clear title to the land.

The wheat yield in 1856 was greatly reduced in many sections of the prairie, due to lack of rain and improper preparation of the soil for much of the wheat was sown on rough breaking which returned little more than the seed. Squaw corn meal, potatoes and garden vegetables provided most of the food of the settlers until the next harvest. The Nelson family, however, harvested a fair crop, due perhaps to the heavy black loam soil of Highland Township and the well prepared ground.

Many of the new settlers on learning that the east portion of the prairie was Indian script land, joined the flow of land seekers who were rapidly taking up land in West Plainview and Elgin Townships which were free from Indian script. Frequent inquiry at the Wabasha Land Office brought no assurance as to the time the script would be removed.

CENTERVILLE

During the summer of 1856, a group of settlers consisting of Dr. F. C. Gibbs, J. Y. Blackwell, David Ackley, Edwin D. Chapman and T. A. Tomlinson, laid out a village on the prairie and gave it the name of Centerville. The location of the new townsite was two miles west of the town of Greenville, which

was later abandoned and the post office moved to Centerville. The village was later renamed Plainview and soon became a thriving town and important trading and market center for the settlers. Dr. Gibbs was the first to practice medicine in the new settlement.

Quoting from the Wabasha County History of 1884:

> "The terrible winter of 1856-57 opened up in November with a terrific snow storm. The snow lay to a depth of about four feet on the level and remained until the following April; in places it was drifted so as to bury the poor little shanties of the humble pioneers. Communication with the outside world was practically cut off. Fortunate was the little community in having Mr. Wilcox and his well stocked store of groceries and provisions to draw upon in its extremity. Throughout the winter the store was surrounded by a narrow court swept bare by the same sporting winds that banked snow several feet high on every side. Into these walls of snow, hard packed and frozen, steps were cut that proved a substantial means of exit from the court below until an April sun destroyed them. The severity of the first winter disheartened many people in the settlement and but for the poverty and a beautiful spring, they would have found Plainview quite deserted."

The Nelson family completed their third year as squatters on their land the first part of May, 1857. The heavy snow of the winter had put the soil in excellent condition for a big crop. There was, however, no occasion for celebration or rejoicing

in the Nelson family, because the latest information from the Land Office in Wabasha gave only the faintest hope that Indian script would soon be lifted from the land. While the Nelsons were not disturbed, other settlers in East Plainview and Highland Townships were constantly annoyed by a clique of land sharks that had gained possession of Indian scripts which entitled them to a quarter section of land. The sharks connived with the Indians so that they would appear at the Land Office for their script which was in accordance with the Indian treaty. The scripts would then pass to the sharks for a few valueless trinkets. Bands of Indians constantly roamed over the land of the settlers and while they were never guilty of any depredations, they were very annoying by their incessant begging. The settlers were afraid of them and readily granted their requests for food. New settlers who took squatters' rights to land in northeastern Highland Township in 1857 were Timothy Murphy, Daniel J. Watkins and James McDonough.

HIGHLAND'S FIRST ENTERPRISE

It was in the middle of the summer of 1858 that Daniel J. Watkins took a squatter's claim to land in a beautiful little valley through which flowed a rippling creek of clear spring water that further on joined the tumbling Zumbro in its mad race to merge with the mighty Mississippi, a score of miles away. This little valley became known as West Indian Creek because there were many Indian camps along its course. Mr. Watkins, seeing the need for lumber to supply the many new settlers that would soon take up land, brought in a sawmill and provided power for it by constructing a log dam across the

valley at a narrow point. He operated the mill until 1861 when it was discontinued and a flour mill built in its place. Alfred Lathrop opened a store nearby in which the first post office in the township was established and Mr. Lathrop became the first postmaster. The post office was given the name of Lyons. Watkins' Mill did a thriving business in grinding wheat for the settlers and filled a great need in the community. The mill changed ownership several times before it finally came into the possession of Stephen Appel who operated it for many years, drawing patronage from a large area. When the township was organized Appel's Mill became the seat of the township government and there many of the early settlers cast their first ballot. An important event in the history of the community took place in 1858 when the Minnesota Territory became a state of the Union. It did not, however, concern the new settlers a great deal for they were struggling to make a living which was made more difficult by the money panic of 1856. The failure of the New York Life Insurance Company and the wild speculation of financial interests in creating inflated values forced many business establishments into bankruptcy. The panic occurred in August while the settlers were harvesting a bumper crop of wheat. Hard times resulted when the market on wheat, the only commodity the settlers had to sell, tumbled to a low value.

A NEW PRESIDENT

James Buchanan was inaugurated president of the United States March, 1857, replacing Franklin Pierce who had served as president since 1853. The Washington government seemed so far distant from

the settlers and so little Washington news came to them that the matter of a new president did not greatly concern them.

ONE HUNDRED MILES TO MILL

The Nelson storage bins were full of wheat following threshing time, and this meant that some one in the family would undertake a long and hazardous journey to the nearest flour mill, which was in Decorah, Iowa, a distance of one hundred miles. Winter came early that year as snow came in October; this was followed by cold and stormy weather which froze the low and boggy places, thus improving the trail for traveling. It was November, 1857 when the first grist was made ready and the homemade sleigh was loaded heavily with the precious wheat. Oliver Nelson was strong and robust and it was he who was chosen to make this important journey. Dressed in his homespun clothing, fur cap and well greased cobbler boots to protect his feet from the cold, he was ready to go. The morning of departure was at hand. The last items to be added to the load before command was given the oxen to go, were a buffalo robe and the trusty rifle with its carefully packed ammunition consisting of powder flask, grease patches with balls and a tin box of percussion caps. On command of the driver to gee and haw, the oxen lumbered out of the yard and onto the wagon trail, maintaining a slow but steady gait, headed in a southerly direction.

The oxen were halted at midday and allowed to munch on hay taken along for their feed. In the meantime the driver lunched on bread and venison meat. After the journey of the day was ended, the oxen were commanded to stop in the yard of a

settler where they were sheltered and fed, while the driver shared the hospitality of the settler's home. The speed of the oxen was limited to a very few miles a day but it was constant trudging along through blustery weather and over difficult trails that finally brought the traveler to the little settlement of Decorah and the mill on the upper Iowa River.

Oliver Nelson, while waiting his turn to get his grist into the grinder, marketed his surplus wheat; for this he received cash and this was the first money to come into the Nelson settlement from products of the land. The grist was ready in a few days, and after careful packing to protect it and his purchases from the storms, the return journey was under way. The oxen seemed to know that they were homeward bound and shuffled along a little faster. Oliver also was taking longer strides as he tramped through the snow beside the oxen. An ox driver walks much of the time in winter to maintain his bodily warmth.

ENCOUNTER WITH A TIMBER WOLF

The return trip was without incident until the state line was passed. Here the trail skirted heavy timber. It was mid afternoon when Oliver Nelson observed a big timber wolf emerging from the woods. After a slight hesitation, the wolf advanced to intercept the oxen. Oliver Nelson did not fear a timber wolf because there were many of them in the new land. Then, too, he could defend the oxen and himself with his trusty muzzle loading rifle. It had but a single shot, but he was sure that this one, well directed, would be all that was necessary. He also knew how to shoot for he had hunted deer and other

game often in the new land. He did not expect the wolf to come within shooting distance for usually they fear man. As the wolf drew nearer, Oliver could see that this one was different in that he was not afraid of man and that he had a definite purpose in mind which was to feast on one of his oxen. The wolf continued his advance and was only a short distance away when Oliver commanded the oxen to stop. The wolf also stopped as if obeying the same command. With rifle in hand, Oliver Nelson took a position between his team and the wolf. As the wolf paused for a moment Oliver observed that it was a perfect specimen of wild beast, with fangs powerful enough to rip the toughest hide, or hamstring the largest animal in the attack. The timber wolf was also known as the buffalo or lobo wolf and stood nearly as tall as a yearling calf, measuring more than eight feet in length. The timber wolf was master of the prairies. Since his daily menu was a deer or buffalo, or later the cattle of the settlers, he never remained hungry for any length of time.

After a moment's hesitation the wolf again advanced and a rush attack was momentarily expected. The wolf again stopped, this time so near that his expression of determination was plainly visible. This was an occasion when two determined minds met on an open snow-covered prairie with no one to witness the exciting drama. The wolf was determined to feast on one of the oxen, while Oliver Nelson was equally determined that this should not happen. Oliver, like the wolf, was gaunt and powerful from his hard work throughout the summer, weighing little less than 200 pounds, which about equalled that of the wolf. Perhaps he would have been a match for the wolf on equal footing.

But Oliver felt sure that he had undisputed advantage because of his trusty rifle, which was at all times loaded and ready for any emergency. With the percussion cap in place, he raised his gun to his shoulder, took careful aim with intent to place the shot between the eyes of the wolf, and pressed the trigger with his forefinger. The first attempt to fire the gun in this great emergency failed! The percussion cap exploded with a little pop, but the charge in the gun did not explode. The wolf, undisturbed by the noise and movement continued to stand in the same position watching intently as Oliver carefully primed his firing tube from the powder flask and put another percussion cap in the proper place. Again, raising the gun to his shoulder and taking more careful aim, he pressed the trigger. Again the gun failed to fire and the wolf did not move except to take a more restful position on his haunches which position he maintained throughout the performance as if spellbound or fascinated by the unusual activities of the man and oxen on which his eyes were riveted. The situation began to look serious for our hero as he primed the firing tube time after time and as many times took aim at the wolf and the gun responded with only the snap of the firing cap, until only one firing cap remained in the little box.

Surely this last cap would fire the charge that would terminate this drama of the prairie. What would happen if the gun again failed to fire? Would there be a fight between a powerful man and a hungry beast? More carefully than before, Oliver forced powder into the firing tube and placed on it the last cap; again he raised the gun to his shoulder, took careful aim and pressed the trigger — noth-

ing happened, except the snap of the cap. The climax of the drama was at hand — a powerful wolf sitting on his haunches only a short distance away from a powerful man standing guard over his oxen with a worthless gun in his hands. Would the wolf now charge? Oliver Nelson expected it as he reversed the position of his gun, grasping the muzzle in his strong hands, and stood ready for a fight if the wolf charged. His first blow would be on the frozen ground to break the stock from the barrel of the gun. All the following blows would be for the wolf in a fight of man against beast. Which would be victorious in such a contest?

Oliver Nelson believed that the advantage was in his favor. While the gun would not fire, it was, however, a formidable weapon in his strong hands as the barrel was long and heavy, and with it he would pound the wolf insensible. Through all this performance which consumed considerable time, the wolf did not move from his sitting position but intently watched every movement of the man and the oxen. Oliver also maintained his position, watching the wolf for any sudden move, but after these positions were held for some time he realized that this situation could not continue. Either he or the wolf would have to make the first move to bring this very tense drama to a climax, because darkness would soon envelop the countryside and the nearest settlers were some distance ahead.

On command the oxen moved ahead. With their advance the wolf raised himself from his sitting position and kept an even pace with the oxen. Oliver Nelson walked between the oxen and the wolf, ready to give battle if necessary. In this formation the procession continued for a distance of three

miles before the wolf abandoned his idea of a meal of man or an ox and re-entered the timber. Thus ended a drama of the prairie, enacted on a winter day in November, 1857. Oliver Nelson arrived home safely with his flour and purchases after a six weeks absence. He later made a second trip to the Decorah mill with his oxen but escaped the exciting experience of the first trip. This was the outstanding experience of his life as a pioneer settler in Minnesota.

The Plainview News of February 2, 1934, quoting from early historical records had the following to relate concerning what we have just written:

> "A giant of a man is starting on a journey to his old home from Decorah, Iowa. He walks into the hills toward the Mississippi. Suddenly a giant gray wolf rises beside the track and fastens his hungry eyes on the nearest ox. Mr. Nelson grasps his gun and steps to the side of the oxen. The wolf does not give way and Mr. Nelson walks for three miles between the oxen and the wolf before the animal finally deserts."

GOOD NEWS

The Nelsons completed their fourth year on their claims in May, 1858. Good news came to the settlers from the Land Office in Wabasha: the information that the government had just completed a treaty with the Sioux Tribe of Indians lifting the half breed script from all land in Highland and the east portion of Plainview Townships, which placed all this land open to preemption filings. On June 25 Nels Olson and his two sons, Ole and Oliver, appeared at the Land Office and filed their preemp-

tion claims to land which they claimed for themselves by virtue of their squatters' rights. The filing of preemption made their claim to the land now secure, and it was not likely that any contest would be filed against them, due to the substantial improvements made while they had held the land as squatters. The lifting of the script created a rush for land in Highland and East Plainview and it was not long before most of the desirable land was taken up.

Highland Township was organized in 1858 and given the name of Smithfield because there were many Smiths among the new settlers. However the name was soon changed to Highland. This name more nearly described the land, which lay above the surrounding area. The first township meeting was held on May 13, at the home of Israel Smith, in the southeastern portion of the township where the town of Smithfield was later located. W. L. Cleveland was elected chairman of the board of supervisors, of which C. G. Dawley and R. M. Doane were also chosen members. Other officers elected at this meeting were J. R. Cleveland, clerk; M. Baldwin, overseer of the poor; Volney Crandell, assessor; James Felton, and A. G. Smith, justices of the peace; George Begg, collector, and Oliver Nelson, constable.

The new township board members were conservative officials. It was evident that there was not much money in the new country because the board spent only fifty dollars in running the township the first year. They began by laying out and working roads in the township. The first one extended from the south township line north to Watkins Mill on West Indian Creek, passing on the east border of Nels Olson and Oliver Nelson's claims.

Previous to the laying of this road, the trails extended across fields from one claim shanty to another. The second road followed the southern border, extending east to Smith's Corner. The settlers who volunteered for road construction the first year worked to improve the road on the big hill leading to Watkins Mill, due to the importance of hauling lumber from the mill.

Perhaps the most important road laid out that year was a diagonal one extending northeast from Smith's Corner through the eastern portion of Highland Township along the ridge and down the big hill to the Cook settlement in the valley. This road later formed a link of a military road that went from Rochester to Wabasha.

A stage line was inaugurated in 1858 with Barney Riley as driver, to carry passengers and mail over this route from Wabasha to Plainview and Rochester. The mail for Smithfield, Plainview and other stations along the route was picked up at Wabasha as it arrived by river steamers. Settlers in East Highland petitioned Washington for a post office at Smithfield. This was granted but not until 1859 was it established. James S. Felton became the first postmaster. Smithfield was given a boost by the beginning of the stage service and the village included a general store, blacksmith shop, hotel and theatre. It became important as a trading post and social center for the settlers of that community.

THE FIRST THRESHING MACHINE

The enlarged wheat fields of the settlers added to the task of threshing. The Nelsons and others used a tree stump in the yard as a pivot, placing thereon a long pole which served as double sweep.

To this sweep they hitched a pair of oxen in tandem fashion. The sweep and leads caused the oxen to circle the stump in a regular course. Bundles of wheat were then placed in their paths in a double row so that the wheat would be scuffed out by the hoofs of the oxen without disturbing the band. What little wheat remained in the bundles was then pounded out by hand. After a day of threshing the wheat was gathered from the frozen ground and placed in storage to await a windy day. The chaff and dirt were then removed by tossing the wheat in the air, where the wind blew the chaff and dirt free as the wheat fell to the ground. A later invention was a crude wind machine which blew out the chaff as the wheat dropped from an elevated hopper. This new method of cleaning was an improvement over the old and was followed by many settlers for a number of years.

THE FIRST SCHOOL

As the community became settled, the thoughts of the settlers were of schools for their children. It was in the early spring of 1858 that the first move was made to organize a school district in the Nelson settlement which was later to become District No. 39. Oliver Nelson, being one of the urgent promoters, set aside a small tract of land in the northeast corner of his claim for a school and on this the settlers built their first school house of hewn logs, 16 x 18 feet in size. The floors, benches and desks were of poplar lumber from the Watkins Mill. There was no chimney on the building as school was held only in the three summer months. The salary for a good teacher was $14.00 per month or $42.00 for the full term. The first teacher was Ursula Met-

calf who later became Mrs. Levi Emery. Among the later teachers were John Bates, Lillian Wells (later Mrs. Frank D. Washburn) Mary Gaylord, (Mrs. Fred Doane) Nancy Needham, (Mrs. Earl Evans) Sybil Champine, (Mrs. Byron Cole), Marie Burnham, (Mrs. E. B. Skinner) and Freda Wolf. Miss Wells, during the teaching term, was courted by a dashing young man, Frank D. Washburn, whose visits to the school came quite frequently. In the winter he appeared in a handsome black cutter drawn by a team of spanking coach horses, adorned with tinkling sleigh bells. The children were very fond of Lillian and liked Frank very much too, so they made up and sang a two line greeting song as they appeared over the little hills:

"We see the horses, we hear the bells,
It's Frank Washburn and Lillian Wells."

This school later became known as the Rich School or District No. 39, as L. V. Rich preempted land near the school and provided the children with drinking water.

It was now the last of May and five years had passed since the Nelson families took squatters' rights to free land which they hoped would some day become their own. They had not yet received titles to their land, but it was expected that proving up claims would be made sometime during the year. A recent government ruling was that claim shacks must be provided with glass windows before final proof could be accepted. The Nelsons continued their hard labor early and late to enlarge their wheat fields by grubbing, breaking and in other ways improving the land so that a good showing would be made when final proof was made.

Many settlers experienced very difficult times throughout the year due to a money crash in the east. While the harvest was good, the value of wheat dropped to a low of 57 cents. Many of the settlers turned to the timber land for a living, to dig and market valuable roots used for medicinal purposes. The roots brought a good price and provided the settlers with much needed cash.

When times became better, many settlers turned their oxen out to grass and purchased horses for their farm work. Many, however, preferred oxen and believed them more adapted to their use on the breaking plow or draft work, due to the simplicity of their gear and their steadiness on the draw, on the trail or in the field. Grass and a small amount of grain provided their daily food. One of the characteristics of the ox was that he could not be hurried or driven too far without rest and feed as he would lie down when he became tired.

The first farm fence in the community was the split rail. It was agreed among the settlers that each one should fence in his wheat and other crops and that cattle of the settlement should have free range. This plan created a big demand for rails made from oak logs, as this was the only material then available for fencing. Thereafter all oak logs of clear grain were saved for rail logs and rail splitting became an art and occupation among the settlers. Many of the fences built were of the Virginia or zig-zag pattern due to the simplicity of the construction. Many of the rail fences were in use on the Nelson farm for the next fifty years. The smooth fence wire appeared later and the twisted barbed wire came into use in the early nineties.

EVENTFUL YEARS

The year 1860 was an eventful one for the Nelson families as they completed the sixth year in the new land which brought to them a fulfillment of a desire to own land in America, and for which they had bid a final farewell to their relatives and friends in their native land, endured hardships in their journey over sea and land, and on their squatters' claim in the wilderness. They were happy in the knowledge that they would at last possess so many acres of rich fertile land on which they would rear their families, improve the land by clearing off the timber for larger wheat fields and build new and larger homes for their families, and stables for their cattle. After all, it had been worthwhile and as they reviewed their experiences of the past ten years since they left their ancestral home in Norway they would at last be rewarded with that which they so long had sought.

It was a day for rejoicing in the Nelson families when the received a land patent signed by James Buchanan, President of the United States of America, on July 2, 1860, granting to Nels Olson the Southeast Quarter of Section Thirty-two, Range 109, Highland Township, County of Wabasha, State of Minnesota, containing 160 acres. Records in the transaction show that Charles Deith, Captain of the forecastle ship FORWARD during the war with Mexico, was given a land bounty, good for 160 acres of land for his services in the war, and that Captain Deith on June 12, 1858, in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, assigned his land bounty warrant to Nels Olson who used it in lieu of cash payment in proving up on his preemption claim.

On the same date a land patent signed by President Buchanan was issued to Oliver Nelson for land in the same section, also containing 160 acres. On making final proof, Oliver Nelson made the following claim: that he had constructed thereon a log house 15 x 17 feet in size; 10 foot walls with low attic; that the split shingles had been replaced with pine sawed shingles; that the clay-packed floor had been replaced with native sawed lumber; and that it had two doors and two glass windows. Twenty acres of land was under cultivation and fenced with a Virginia fence, cut and split from the timber on the land. On June 25, 1858, at the District Land Office in Faribault, Minnesota, Oliver Nelson, in lieu of a cash preemption payment, presented a Military Land Bounty Warrant No. 61186-160-55, which had been assigned to him by Robert Riddle, a seaman on the ship CONGRESS, U. S. Navy in the war with Mexico. This land bounty was issued to Robert Riddle for his military service in the war.

That money was hard to get and only at a high premium was demonstrated when Oliver Nelson paid 4% per month or 48% per year interest on a loan of two hundred dollars from J. Matthews of Winona. There are no records to show why this money was borrowed, but it is presumed that it was to purchase the land bounty used in his proof of claim. It would be difficult for a later generation to visualize the enormous amount of work accomplished by the pioneer settlers in transforming a wilderness into home and crop lands.

While there was some prairie land on the Oliver Nelson claim, a large portion of the land was covered with heavy oak timber. Perhaps this was the reason why no more than twenty acres were made

ready for crops the first years of his stay on the land. A definite program of enlarging his cultivated fields each year was carried out. Each autumn and winter a tract of timber bordering the cultivated field was grubbed out. The best logs were reserved for rails while the remainder were used for firewood. A big breaker turned the grubbed land over in June. The first crop was turnips and rutabagas. The second year the rich land became a part of the grain field.

Oliver Nelson became an expert rail splitter, collecting enough rails the first few years to fence his twenty acres of cultivated land. Building his fences in a zig zag pattern required thousands of rails to complete the project. Rail splitting was a winter job, and at a time when the frost was in the logs. The tools of a rail splitter were his axe, maul and wedges. It was a good rail splitter who could show one hundred rails for a day's work.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

The inauguration of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States in March of 1861 created widespread interest among the settlers, due perhaps to the fact that Minnesota had become a state and would have a greater voice in our national government in Washington, and for the further reason that Lincoln was a western man from a nearby state.

HOUSE FULL OF INDIANS

The tribe of the Sioux nation was large, with tribal headquarters near Wabasha, in the valley of the Mississippi. They also lived in many villages along the East and West Indian Creek, also on the Whitewater. The Indians traveled a beaten path or

trail between these villages and often came in contact with the settlers. The Indians and settlers were on friendly terms and often exchanged greetings with a word, sign or grunt.

Oliver Nelson was summoned from the field one day to find his house full of Indians. Upon entering he removed his gun from the pegs above the door and with it in his hands, shouted: "Puko Chee," which in the Sioux language meant "get out." The Indians retired peaceably and no harm was done except to give the mother and children the biggest fright they ever experienced.

Seventy years after the above incident, it was the privilege of the writer to become intimately acquainted with Joseph Carrow, a Sioux Indian. Mr. Carrow was born near Wabasha and stated that the honor of being chief of the Lake Tribe would have descended to him if the tribal custom of the Sioux Indians had been continued. Chief Carrow was a direct descendent of Walking Buffalo, chief of the Lake Tribe, who claimed for his tribe all the land in the great Mississippi Valley.

In a treaty with the Government in 1815, Walking Buffalo sold this vast estate for the consideration of some old army muskets, blankets and trinkets that were of no material value to the Indians. Chief Walking Buffalo reserved for the Indians' hunting ground a strip of timber land bordering both sides of the Mississippi River, extending from Mendota to Dubuque. The chieftainship passed from Walking Buffalo to his son, Wacouta Red Wing, who was chief of the Lake Tribe during the Indian uprising of 1862. Chief Red Wing was popular among his tribesmen and a true friend of the white people, and he did all in his power to carry out and fulfill the

treaty contracted by his father. Chief Carrow also told of the most influential chief who bore the Dakota name of Wah-pa-sha, after whom the city and county of Wabasha was named. Besides being the chief of his own band, he was the head chief of all the bands along the Mississippi, a noted man in his day. During the trouble with the Winnebago Indians at Prairie du Chien, Wah-pa-sha was invited by them to a council. After listening to the Winnebago chiefs and what they proposed doing to the whites, Wah-pa-sha arose, pulled a hair from his head, then blew it away, telling the council that if they harmed a white man he would blow them from the face of the earth as he had blown the hair. The chief and his band made their summer residence on what is now called "Sand Prairie", or as it was called by the old Voyageurs, "La Prairie au Cypre." The body of Chief Wacouta Red Wing lies in a grave on the high bluff overlooking the city of Red Wing that bears his name. The little village of Wacouta near Red Wing was also named in his memory.

WAR CLOUDS

The first shots at Fort Sumter and the certainty of war between the States brought great concern to the settlers, whose only thought had been of peace and security, and homes for their families. Many men of the community answered the first call for volunteers made on April 19, 1861 by President Lincoln. After a short training near home the volunteers were transported by Mississippi River steamers to the battlefields of the south. The first of the Nelson families to enlist in the service was Rovang Christian Nelson, who was mustered into service on August 15, 1862, closely following his twenty-

first birthday. Serving with Company C, Tenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry he saw service with Sibley's expedition to Dakota Territory to put down the Indian uprising of 1862-63. After the completion of the Indian campaign, his division was taken by boat down the Mississippi River to St. Louis, and the southern battlefields. He was in the bloody battle of Tupelo and Nashville, Tennessee. It was in the battle of Nashville that he was killed on December 16, 1862. His body lies at rest in the shade of a large evergreen tree on the south slope of the beautiful National Cemetery in grave No. 2455, Station E., Nashville, Tennessee. The writer had the privilege of visiting his grave in November, 1948 and was the only member of the family who had seen this grave since his burial eighty-five years earlier. A marble headstone engraved with his name and military information marks his last resting place.

Walter McNallan of Highland Township, a companion soldier of Christ Nelson, related the following on his return from service: "I fought side by side with Christ in the battle of Nashville, and saw him fall with a mortal wound. We buried him on the battlefield with others who fell during the seige. Christ was a good soldier."

Nels Nelson entered the army as a volunteer on September 5, 1864 and served as a private in Company A, 3rd Minnesota Infantry in the south. He was honorably discharged from the service July 28, 1865. Oliver Nelson was also called for military service, but was relieved from such duty by hiring a substitute who was not subject to military service in the U. S. Army. Mr. Peterson, a recent immigrant from Norway, was paid four hundred dollars for serving as his substitute during the last

part of the war. Mr. Peterson presented to the Nelson family on his return a vest pocket size New Testament which he carried while in service. This Testament has since been a cherished keepsake in the Nelson family.

The war years were trying ones for the new farmers. While the yield of wheat crops was average, prices fluctuated considerably, ranging from 60 cents to $1.60 per bushel. The high prices were speculative and were effective after most of the wheat had left the farmers' granary while merchandise that the farmers had to purchase multiplied in price several times, with the result that the farmers' wheat dollar had little purchasing value. The cruelties of war were brought forcibly to many families in the community as information came that their sons had paid the supreme sacrifice with their lives and they would not return. Some returned with wounds of battle; others were in ill health due to the southern fever and others were prisoners of war.

THE CLOSING YEARS OF THE WAR

Greenwood Prairie farmers experienced a drouth period in 1863-64 when rainfall each year measured less than sixteen inches. Insufficient rainfall in the growing season greatly reduced the wheat harvest and precipitated hard times which lasted until the harvest of 1865.

Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated President of the United States for a second term in 1865, as the great conflict between the states was drawing to a close. The war did not close, however, before a terrible tragedy to the nation had occurred, the assassination of President Lincoln on April 14, 1865,

which plunged the nation into deep mourning. Andrew Johnson was immediately inaugurated and served out Lincoln's term. The war was brought to a close a month later and peace was again established between the states of the nation.

THE FIRST RAILROAD

The first railroad built near enough to serve Greenwood Prairie was the Winona and St. Peter which ran from Winona to Rochester and was built in 1864. This created new markets at St. Charles and Dover which greatly benefitted the farmers of southern Greenwood Prairie. Weaver and Minneiska continued to remain the market places for the farmers of the northern portion of the county who delivered their wheat to the waiting barges at the river docks. The first railroad to be built into Wabaska County was the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Milwaukee, which in 1871 completed the road from St. Paul to Winona, creating good markets for the farmers by constructing grain elevators at Kellog, Weaver and Minneiska. Wheat brought $1.25 at the new elevators that year.

Sheep on the farm supplied the family with mutton as well as wool, which, after washing and carding, was spun into yarn for family garments, such as mittens, socks and caps. Knitting needles and the spinning wheel were in almost constant use throughout the long winter evenings. The weaving loom which was owned by a group of neighbors was moved from family to family according to their need for the weaving of shawls and yard goods for underwear and other uses.

EARLY RELIGIOUS SERVICES

The church affiliation of the Nelson family had its beginning in the Lutheran church of Loman near Rovang Gaard in Norway. The Loman Church is very historic and one of the oldest churches in Norway, having been built in the eleventh century. On coming to America in 1850, the Nelson family first settled in an early Scandinavian settlement at Cambridge, Wisconsin. This was then the gateway through which thousands of Scandinavians passed on their way to take up free land. During the stay of the Nelsons in the Cambridge Community a Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal Church Society was formed, which became the first church of that denomination in America and the world. A stone church was built by the organization in 1851 and for more than one hundred years it has served that community as a religious center. It was the pleasure of the writer to visit this church in June, 1951, shortly following the celebration of the one hundredth birthday of the church, by its members and the citizens of Cambridge.

While the Nelson family did not affiliate with the new church organization due to their early departure for the west, they did, however, worship with them and became converted to that denomination and they were instrumental in the establishing of other churches of that faith in the land of their choice.

On establishing their home in Minnesota Territory, the Nelsons together with other Scandinavian families in their community and in the community of Long Creek in Oakwood Township, organized and maintained a religious society pat-

terned after the new church in Cambridge, Wisconsin. Religious services were held in the homes of settlers and later in school houses, conducted by circuit riding ministers. A home for the minister and his family was later built on the homestead of Nels Olson and was maintained for that purpose for many years.

The first official organization of the church took place in 1868 when a circuit riding minister, A. P. Birch of Grand Meadow, Minnesota, who had served them as pastor for several years, organized the Norwegian Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1873 he was instrumental in building the first church in the community in the Long Creek district. The church building was of frame construction, 32 by 24 feet in size, costing $900.00 which was contributed by thirty-five members. Early pastors following the Rev. Mr. Birch were Alex Olson, A. Johnson, E. Avelson, J. Peterson, Peter Siem and A. Knudson.

A church school was organized with Martin A. Grove as superintendent. Mr. Grove often served as pastor in the absence of the minister. The church structure was later enlarged and still serves the community. The Oliver Nelson family maintained membership in the church for many years, and it was not until 1897 that it was transferred to the Plainview M. E. Church, which remained their church home until the time of their death. While Oliver Nelson was not an ordained minister, he often substituted for a regular minster.

THE McCORMICK REAPER

The reaper invented by Cyrus McCormick made its appearance in the early war years and was a great boon to the farmers for it cut the grain and

raked it off the cutting platform ready for the binders who followed. It was estimated that a reaper equaled the labor of six men and greatly simplified the harvesting, lowering the cost by one-half. The number of able bodied men at home was greatly reduced, so that if it had not been for the advent of the reaper at those critical times, much of the grain would have remained unharvested.

Marsh Brothers put a reaper of similar construction into the wheat fields in 1863, and it became a keen competitor of the McCormick machine. The two reaper factories worked over time to supply the great demand for the new machine. It was not long before a reaper was supplied to all farmers who could afford to buy one at a cost of one hundred dollars.

Shortly after the close of the war, Marsh came out with an improvement on his reaper and called it a harvester. The new machine provided a platform for two men, who bound the grain into bundles as it was elevated to them by a canvas apron. Competition was keen between the rival companies who used their utmost skill to outdo each other in perfecting a better machine. McCormick also produced a harvester in 1875, patterned after the Marsh machine. The popularity of the harvester was of short duration as McCormick brought out two years later a still better invention and called it the binder harvester, which securely bound the bundles with a fine steel wire. There was a rush by progressive farmers to secure a binding harvester, which soon placed the reaper and the reaper-harvester in the discard.

The popularity of the binder was somewhat dimmed when farmers complained that some of their

cattle had died of perforated stomachs caued by short pieces of wire swallowed with a cud of straw. However the greatest objection to the use of wire for binding grain was evident at the time the newly invented horse power driven threshing machine came into use; the wire caused troublesome suspension of threshing operations in order to remove the tangled wire from the cylinder of the machine. In the yard of many farmers were large bundles of wire that had been so removed. The wire binder, however, was very efficient in operation and was capable of harvesting fourteen acres of grain in a day. The big demand for the wire binder was, however, destined to last only a few years, as one invention succeeded another in the perfecting of a better harvester. The Deering twine binder appeared in 1880, closely followed by McCormick and others. It was not until five years later that the twine binder came into general use by farmers of Greenwood Prairie. It was the lot of Oliver Nelson to have had a try at all the harvesting inventions, and when the twine binder appeared on the local market, he purchased a Champion. When the new machine was put into the harvest field it was found to be so clumsy and heavy that it required the pulling strength of six heavy horses. The machine gave constant trouble because the knotter would not perform properly in binding the bundles, so the Champion was soon discarded as a bad $400.00 investment. The next binding harvester purchased for the Nelson farm was a Deering, which was streamlined, light, efficient and was in use on the farm for many years. Other binders appearing in the market were the McCormick, the Marsh, Wood, Plane, Milwaukee and perhaps others. All were built on the same general

plan and served the farmers well for the next forty years, without any major changes. The cost of the binder was eventually reduced to $125.00 and was sometimes sold as low as $95.00. The header, combine and swather appeared later to again revolutionize harvesting for the farmers.

THE THRESHER

Modern invention also revolutionized the machines for threshing the farmer's grain. The first and primitive method was the flail, used throughout the world for countless generations. It was also the method used by the pioneer settlers in threshing their wheat. The first improvement over the flail was the treading of grain bundles by oxen on a circular sweep. The first mechanical thresher, however, was the treadmill. It was attached to a small machine with revolving cylinder, propelled by horses or oxen on an inclining tread. The machine was operated in the field and moved from place to place where grain bundles had been gathered. The machine performed fairly well and was an improvement over former methods. The new invention sold for $200.00 but never became popular, perhaps due to the weight and bulk which required two teams of horses to move it. It was soon succeeded by a more efficient threshing machine.

The colorful horsepower quickly put all treadmill threshers out of business. The horse power was so named because horses on the sweeps provided the motor power which was transmitted to a cylinder threshing machine by a line of heavy tumbling rods twenty feet in length with flexible knuckles at the joints. The tumbling rods were so called because there were no bearings between the joints and

this allowed them to vibrate considerably. The horse power required the pulling strength of three or four teams of horses for its operation. Threshing with a horse power machine was an occasion long remembered by the pioneers. The cracking of the blacksnake whip by the driver on the power platform over the backs of the horses, the quick response of the horses, some gray, others sorrel or black; the grinding of the well-greased power gears; the noise of the tumbling rods; the hum of the cylinder as bundles were fed to it by the machine operators from the nearby stacks; the men stacking the straw as it was elevated to them; and at the grain chutes the men busy measuring by half bushels the grain as it poured from the machine — all this created a fascinating picture that thrilled the spectator as no other farm operation had done.

The perfection of the power thresher greatly changed the method of handling grain on the farm. The bundles were hauled from the field to the farm yard where they were built into round stacks with four stacks to a machine setting. It was the opinion of many farmers that stacking the grain produced a better quality of grain, which was reflected in the market price. This was, perhaps, more true of the barley crop which was rapidly becoming a marketable commodity while the wheat fields grew smaller. The horsepower thresher became the farmer's first efficient method of threshing his grain and it remained in general use for a number of years.

But the horsepower, though colorful and efficient, gave way to a newer invention for producing motive power for the threshers in the form of a steam engine. The first one in the community came to the Nelson farm in 1885. It was a small upright,

coal burning, horse drawn engine, owned and operated by John and Edward Cleveland. The new engine did not produce a great deal of power but it was sufficient to run a small separator which had been converted from horse power to steam by placing a pulley on the shaft of the cylinder. The power was transmitted from the engine to the machine by way of a wide belt. The new machine attracted a great deal of attention. Perhaps the most interesting part to some people was the steam whistle which was used at every opportunity. The little steam engine was the forerunner of a much larger and more powerful steam traction engine and thresher which was brought to the Nelson farm by the Cleveland Brothers with Abe Gaskill as engineer. The first of the large models were coal and wood burners but later models were straw burners or used gasoline.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

The early settlers in Minnesota Territory selected land near the Mississippi River or other navigable waterways. The Nelson families were fortunate in being only fourteen miles from the Mississippi because they depended upon that waterway for the transportation of their wheat to eastern markets. As the new country developed, wheat elevators were constructed at Wabasha, Weaver and Minneiska boat landings. This created outlets for Greenwood Prairie wheat, and it remained so until a railroad was built into Plainview some years later. Following each harvest and threshing season, there was a continuous line of heavily loaded farm wagons going to the river markets to dispose of the wheat before the close of river navigation. Some wagons

were drawn by horses and others by oxen. Many traveled the military road through East Highland and over Hoosier Ridge to a junction with the Weaver Road. All wheat wagons were provided with heavy shoe wheel brakes which produced creaks and groans as they descended the steep and stony Weaver Hill. Some found favorable markets at Weaver, others drove a few miles farther to the Minneiska Landing, while other wheat haulers chose the less steep Beaver Hill road which followed the course of the Whitewater River to the Minneiska market. Minneiska is an Indian name meaning White Water.

The marketing of wheat by the farmers was at times very difficult as the trip required two days of travel time over bad roads with uncertain early winter weather conditions. Commerce on the Mississippi was heavy and the landing wharves hummed with activity in their efforts to handle the large volume of outgoing wheat and the incoming mail and merchandise for the little villages and trading posts in the new land. During the height of river activities more than fifty boats per day plied the river to care for the large volume of commerce. Pleasure boats provided delightful excursion trips on the river to Lake Pepin and other scenic places. One of the old landmarks on the river was Gray's Castle, situated on the Minnesota side, a short distance below Minneiska. The castle was built by a Mr. Gray at the water's edge and river driftwood was used in its construction. It was several stories in heighth with a lookout tower above the river floor, making the river valley visible for several miles. The castle was later abandoned and finally destroyed by fire.

LOGGING

Logging in the big white pine timber in Wisconsin and Minnesota was an early day project that influenced the construction of large lumber mills at Winona, LaCrosse and other points down the river. The cutting of logs was a winter operation and thousands of young men answered the call of the pinery where they worked during the cold months. In early spring many of the now bearded lumberjacks boarded the first down stream boats seeking river towns with the most popular bars, where their wages of the winter were perhaps gone when they recovered from their drunken orgies. Without money they fanned out into the country where they were given work as farm hands. The farmer in order to protect his family against the camp graybacks, prepared beds in the hay barn for these men or insisted on a thorough delousing before they were given a bed in the house.

Among the lumberjacks were skilled rivermen and rafts men, who, after the run of the logs in the early spring breakup, would gather at the booming yards at Stillwater or Reed's Landing. There logs were made into braids and braids formed into rafts; some of the larger rafts contained countless thousands of logs and were three hundred feet in width and fifteen hundred feet long. The rafts were so skillfully constructed that logs were piled in a solid mass to a depth of five feet. In the center of this island of logs was built a cook house and also sleeping sheds for the thirty men who floated the rafts down the river to their destination at a sawmlil.

Until the close of the Civil War, the rafts were carried down stream by the river's current

and very great skill was required to keep the rafts within the boundaries of the current. Later on, the side or stern wheeler pushed the rafts with a tug set crosswise at the head to hold the raft in the channel of the river. This new method greatly accelerated the movement of the rafts and prevented grounding at sharp river turns. Hundreds of rafts were floated down the river following the logging season, creating a thrilling sight as raft after raft appeared from around the upper bend on the broad expanse of the big Mississippi, with its shorelines of green timber and the rugged bluffs in the distance, resembling minature mountains. The first logging was done in the upper Mississippi woods in 1837. That was the beginning of a great industry which continued for ninety years, when the last raft was floated down the river in 1926.

PROSPERITY

The year 1866 breezed through with a flourish. Returned soldiers supplied labor for a general expansion in business and on the farm, wheat, the farmer's commodity, was valued as gold, selling on the market for $1.75 per bushel. All available oxen and horses were put on the breaking plow to enlarge the wheat fields. There was prosperity in the land as wheat brought real money for the first time to the farmers of Greenwood Prairie. A limited crop of corn, oats, and barley was grown for stock feed.

The prosperity that had come to the community was not to last, however, as succeeding years produced only a small crop of wheat due to drouth conditions. While the wheat market remained at an average of $1.24 per bushel, the return to the farmer was not sufficient for his existence. The 1866

prosperity was followed by two years of depression. Merchants failed, while many farmers left for other parts of the country seemingly more prosperous. Others, more rooted to the soil, existed by putting a mortgage on their land, stock, machinery, or anything else that would provide a few dollars for their livelihood.

ULYSSES S. GRANT

General U. S. Grant, Civil War hero and Republican, was inaugurated President of the United States in March, 1869, succeeding Johnson, who served out Lincoln's second term. It was said that Johnson was the most unpopular man to serve as president of the United States.

Winter snow and early spring rains in 1869 portended a good year for the wheat raisers. Farmers who were fortunate to have seed wheat in storage, sowed to the limit of seed and acreage. The growing season was ideal and the harvest abundant, the largest yet produced on the wheat prairie. So enormous was the yield that the markets became glutted. The early market on wheat advanced to $2.00 at the river wharves and $2.40 in the east. As the farmers crowded the market, the new value of wheat declined until it sold at only 40 cents a bushel.

PANIC AND BOOM

Panic prevailed in the wheat belt as the mortgage holders, seized with alarm, rushed from farm to farm after a short legal action, drove off the cattle and carted away the machinery, leaving the farmer almost destitute. Better times, however, were in store for the wheat farmers of Greenwood Prairie, as wheat advanced to 70 cents in the early spring of

1870 and this was the beginning of boom times such as the farmers had never before experienced. This lasted until 1875. While the yield of wheat was less in some seasons, the market through the period remained steady, advancing to $1.85 while the average was $1.25. Now, in the struggle for advancement, the farmer had money to improve his farm, which resulted in the building of many magnificent homes throughout Greenwood Prairie. So well were they constructed that eighty years later they stand as monuments to the progress of that time.

In twenty years of exceedingly hard labor Oliver Nelson had wrung from the wilderness a farm containing 70 acres of rich tillable land. The stumps were the cruel tyrants that forced the settlers to earn their land the hard way. The wave of prosperity sweeping the country also came to the Oliver Nelson family. Early in 1874, lumber was hauled from yards on the Mississippi River for new farm buildings, which included a seven room house, barns and other buildings, the project being completed in early autumn. The family moved from the log house into the new home which was placed on elevated ground in a little clearing facing the public road. In the front yard stood a giant bur oak tree, towering to a great height and so symmetrical that it seemed to have been grown by an artist. This giant oak was a landmark that retained its stately form as long as the Nelson family lived on the farm. A large orchard of apple and plum trees and a variety of berry bushes was planted nearby, and these provided an abundance of fruits for table use. A double row of soft maple trees bordering the driveway soon provided syrup for breakfast cakes. Indeed it was a beautiful setting for a home.

NELSON — HALVORSON

Oliver Nelson was united in marriage to Mary Ann Halvorson, December 31, 1870. Mary Ann Halvorson, the daughter of Halvor and Beret Halvorson, was born in Arhdal, Valdres, Norway, January 27, 1845. She came to America with her mother and other members of the family in 1865, settling at Grand Meadow, and later moved to the Plainview vicinity.

To their union were born eight children, seven sons and one daughter, namely: John Henry, September 17, 1871; Albert, September 24, 1872; Hans Bettuel, December 22, 1873; Otto Cornelius, August 16, 1875; Joseph Oliver Sophornius, February 3, 1877; Alfred Christian, January 16, 1879; Cyrus Albin, February 3, 1883 and Anna Bertine, January 13, 1888. All the children lived to maturity except Hans Bettuel who died of diphtheria, November 3, 1883 at the age of ten years, and Anna Bertine, who died January 29, 1888, at the age of two weeks.

Oliver Nelson added to his farm holdings on January 28, 1870 when he purchased from John Burnham a forty acre tract for a consideration of $25.00 per acre, in section twenty-eight, located a short distance north of the home place. In order to finance this purchase, he placed a mortgage of five hundred seventy-five dollars on eighty acres of his home land. John A. Mathews of Winona provided the money and was paid twelve per cent interest for the duration of the loan. The new land was broken up and produced a good crop each year and so became a valuable addition to the home farm.

PLAINVIEW VILLAGE

The village of Plainview was a trading center

for a large farming territory and flourished as the wheat money poured into the pockets of the merchants in exchange for building materials, hardware, furniture, wagons, reapers and countless other necessities. The wagonmaker, harnessmaker and blacksmith worked overtime to supply the demand for their skill. Shops and stores were loaded with merchandise, which was carted overland at great expense from the nearest railroad twenty miles away. As evidence of prosperity in the wheat country, and a desire of a citizen to publicly display this wealth, an elegant top buggy, the first to appear in the new country, was brought into the village.

A heavy fall of snow came in Januaury, 1873. For more than two days it fell incessantly, accompanied by a strong wind of blizzard proportion. It was unsafe to venture far from shelter. More than a hundred persons caught in the western open country were reported frozen to death. The heavy snow throughout the winter put the soil in fine condition for the large crop of wheat which was produced in the next harvest. The first pest that came to plague the prairie farmers and take a portion of the wheat crop was the Rocky Mountain locust, of the family of grasshoppers that appeared on the Greenwood Prairie farms just before the harvest of 1874-75. While the locust damage in the local fields was comparatively light, farmers in other sections of the state lost their entire crop and were left destitute.

WITH THE WOLVES

When John Henry Nelson was nearing his third birthday, he had an experience that caused his family and the neighborhood a great deal of con-

cern and one which he had reason to remember throughout his life. It was harvest time in 1874 when he accompanied his older brother who was carrying lunch to his father and the workers in the harvest fields in the southeastern portion of the farm, a considerable distance from the house. In passing through a section of cut-over land on their way, John became separated from his brother and wandered among the stumps and brush, coming to a farm road. He followed it and emerged from the cut-over land that skirted the heavy timber to the north. On reaching the end of the farm road, John continued his wandering in a westerly course which led into the timber, and he was beyond the borders of the farm and in a rough and rugged timbered ravine with overhanging limestone rock formations bordering a water course. It was late in the afternoon. Exhausted from his wandering, hungry and in tears, he curled up on a matting of oak leaves that had been whipped by the wind to a protective position under the overhanging ledge. He was soon in a deep sleep that lasted throughout the night. When he awoke in the morning, the sun was shining brightly. Nearby was a mother wolf watching him, and within his reach were the young. He played with them as he had with his puppies at home, while the mother wolf looked on from a nearby position, not offering to harm him, but perhaps enjoying her puppies and the child's play. As the day advanced, the wolf led her young deeper into the rugged ravine. The child followed, playing with the baby wolves as they went, and in that way a large part of the day passed.

The father on learning of the absence of his son, was greatly concerned for his safety, and imme-

diately, with the assistance of the harvest hands, carefully searched the area where he was last seen, and where they thought he was likely to be found. As their search did not reveal any clue to his whereabouts, a larger searching party of neighbors was organized. Throughout the evening and most of the night, with lighted lanterns, the search continued among the stumps and brush piles, as well as through the timber and grain fields, without finding any trace of the child. The search was resumed at daybreak and they searched more thoroughly, and explored the timber and fields without success. The search was then extended to the adjoining timber land. It was not till after midday that searchers found their first clue when they discovered footprints of the child and those of the wolves on the borders of a waterhole. There was evidence that he had spent the night under a large ledge. The hunt was intensified as the men fanned out to cover the width of the ravine, carefully searching every portion of the area with its many crevices and depressions in the rock contour which extended into a deep valley gorge. Here the child was found unharmed, and with him was found the mother wolf and her puppies. On the approach of the men, the wolf and her young disappeared into the heavy timber. Exhausted from hunger and with tearstained cheeks, John was restored to his overjoyed parents, none the worse for the very unusual adventure in his day with the wolves.

THE PLAINVIEW NEWS

The Plainview Enterprise, a monthly newspaper, was published by T. G. Bolton in 1864, as an advertising medium for his drugstore, but it was soon dis-

continued. Mr. Bolton launched his second monthly newspaper venture on November 16, 1874, when he issued the first copy of the **Plainview News,** also to advertise his store. This was later purchased by F. A. Wilson, who converted it into a weekly, with the first issue on April 18, 1877. The newspaper was well received and filled a great need among the citizens of the thriving village as a means of dispensing news and advertising matter to the citizens and farmers in a large trade territory. The village of Plainview prospered beyond the expectations of the promoters, and at that date contained forty places of business, three physicians and a lawyer. The **News** was a weekly visitor in the Nelson home from its first publication to the present time, a period of eighty years.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES

A national event in 1877 was the inauguration of Rutherford B. Hayes, Republican, as president of the United States, succeeding U. S. Grant, who retired after eight years in office.

THE RAILROAD CAME

There was a great celebration in Plainview when in 1878 the Winona and St. Peter Railroad completed its branch into the village. The coming of the railroad meant good transportation facilities for the merchants and made it possible for them to compete in the price of merchandise with other villages enjoying such railroad services. It was also a boon to farmers by creating better markets. The citizens of Plainview voted bonds in the sum of $40,000 for the railroad to build into the village.

The village later repudiated the obligation and

refused to redeem the bonds. The company instituted action in Federal Court to collect principal and interest, and after years of litigation, judgment was rendered in favor of the village of Plainview.

The railroad service resulted in the construction of elevators and stockyards, thus creating better markets for the farmers who were growing less wheat and more corn, barley and oats. Wheat and barley were cash crops raised largely for the markets, while oats and corn were used as feed for the increasing livestock herds on the farm. The farm prices for this period were: beef cattle, $3.08 to $3.53 per cwt.; hogs, $2.52 to $5.82; sheep, $2.90 to $3.17; wheat, 70 cents to $1.02; corn 22 to 30 cents; butter, 11 to 18 cents and eggs 11 to 18 cents. The laboring man earned one dollar for a ten hour day, carpenters and stonemasons the same, while the woodchopper earned only 75 cents. The summer wages for a farm hand were twenty-five dollars per month, plus board and room. His winter wages were the same less the cash consideration.

The Minnesota Midland built a railroad in Wabasha County in 1878. It was the third railroad in the county, and was a narrow gauge. It extended from Kellogg west along the Zumbro river, creating good farm markets at Millville and later at Theilmanton. The road was discontinued after twenty-five years of operation.

It was in the middle eighties that Oliver Nelson dug a deep well near his house to provide water for household use. While the spring in the draw provided the farm with an ample supply, it was a tedious task to carry it some distance to the house on the hill. To make the task of water transportation more efficient, shoulder yokes were formed out of

seasoned oak, making it possible to carry a double load more easily. The new well was dug four feet square and curbed with heavy timber to prevent caving in, but it was abandoned when the depth of forty-five feet was reached because the flow of water was small, though "waterwitch" had indicated that this location was favorable. Workmen, however, did find well preserved tree trunks at the extreme depth, which had evidently been there for countless years. Later a deep well was drilled into rock which provided a large supply of water.

"CHANGING SKIES"

(From "Wilderness Saga")

By Walter Havighurst

"There was a cloud for which they had learned to watch. A cloud that was a mass of blue-gray feathers, so wide and dense that it darkened the sky at noon. It meant a welcome change of diet, a pigeon in the pot, but it brought war to grain fields of many farmers in the great Mississippi Valley. A gun was of no use, no more than the snap of a finger, to drive the birds away. It was a common occurence among the settlers to wade among the birds with a club and kill scores without frightening the flock, which was helpless in the grip of a vast instinctive force that took no account of man. When a flock of pigeons settled in a tree, the weight broke the branches; the sudden jar of their flight, moving in unison with whirling thunder, caused tree branches to break. They spent the daylight hours in the growing grain fields. At nightfall they passed in a wide, black stream to the timber along the Mississippi

and its tributaries. The noise of their wings, returning to the fields with the first light of dawn, awakened the sleepers in the cabins. They looked like a gray-blue carpet on the earth; they ate every blade of grain and scratched out every seed from the ground.

"The farmers suffered from the hungry birds every season, trying one useless means after another to drive them off, made new attacks on them at night, building sulphur fires under their roosts in the timber, and dead pigeons rained to the ground. The neighboring settlers drove home with wagons loaded with pigeons for hog feed, while others drove their hogs to the roosts to gorge on the feathered carcasses. Usually the migration lasted for only a few weeks after which the farmers would again plant their seeds. Some years, however, the migration period extended over the nesting time, and the farmer would visit the nests in the timber and return with countless bushels of eggs. The last big migration was in 1888, when they banded the sky above the river valley."

Many carrier pigeons nested in groves near Plainview, from the time of the earliest pioneers. The largest nesting places on the prairie, however, were in the valley of the Whitewater, extending from the Mississippi nearly to Elgin.

JAMES A. GARFIELD

James A. Garfield was inaugurated President of the United States in March of 1881, succeeding Rutherford B. Hayes who retired after four years in office. Garfield's administration was barely begun when he was shot by Charles Guitheau in July and

died September 19, 1881. Vice President Chester A. Arthur then became President and served out the unexpired term.

The grain crops were light in the year 1884 and the succeeding four years. The Greenwood Prairie farmers fared better, however, than they did in the other districts, due to heavy black loam soil which was more resistent to drouth. The price of wheat dropped, taking one tumble after another until the best grades brought only sixty-four cents a bushel. The farmers had now so diversified their farming that they were not dependent on wheat alone as a cash crop. Market prices during the period were: beef cattle, $3.96 to $4.35; hogs, $3.75 to $4.76; sheep, $3.10 to $3.56; chickens 4 to 6 cents; wool 18 to 23 cents; barley 42 to 63 cents; flax, $1.10 to $1.18 and butter 16 to 20 cents.

The Nelson farmed hummed with activity during the spring and summer of 1881 when a large basement barn was built to shelter the ever increasing stock. The basement stabled the horses, cattle and sheep while the upper floor was used for storing the feed grain. The frame of the barn was made of heavy pine lumber, mortised and pegged with oak pegs. It was a gala day when the neighbors assembled to man the pikepoles in raising the heavy timbers to their mortised positions. Lunch with coffee was served to the helpers during the noon hour. This was the first large barn erected in the community and stands today, seventy-seven years later, as erect and sturdy as the day it was constructed. A large granary, corn crib and hog house were built in 1885, completing a set of farm buildings unequaled in that area.

THE CHINCH BUG

One of the most formidable pests ever to plague the farmers of Greenwood Prairie was the little black chinch bug that made its first appearance in the early eighties. Their greatest ravage on farm crops extended from 1883 to 1890, due perhaps to hot and dry periods near harvest time which favored the bug in propagating daily millions of its kind. The chinch bug traveled on foot and in waves of countless millions tumbling over other millions in their march to the grain and corn fields as harvest time neared. In a few days the standing grain and corn were a black mass of bugs from root to top, sucking the life out of all growing vegetation, as they marched through one field and then on to another. Their daily advance was noticeable as the grain turned from a green to a lifeless yellow. The farmers were helpless to stop the onward march of the bugs. Some attempted to plow them under as they entered the field but it was a useless effort. While the plow covered countless millions other millions in a solid front came climbing over the rough plowing and others until the green fields were reached. Farmers also tried to stop their advance by plowing deep furrows the length of the field into which the bugs tumbled. A heavy log saturated with coal oil was repeatedly drawn the length of the ditch by a horse. This method was also a failure because there were too many bugs. There was no way to stop their advance. Travelers encountered armies of them on the road and drove with the wheels of their wagons coated with a heavy muck of grease from mangled bugs. The odor was very offensive.

The little chinch bug possessed the power even to stop a railroad train. This was demonstrated when the Northwestern train, formerly the Winona and St. Peter, was stalled as it encountered an army of chinch bugs migrating over the rails on its run from Elgin to Plainview. The drive wheels of the heavy locomotive spun in a mass of black bug grease and failed to climb the slight grade. Many farmers in their rush to beat the bugs to the harvest, cut their grain too green, reducing the value of the crop. Throughout the country it was estimated that the loss caused by the chinch bug ran into millions of dollars. In the early nineties, the chinch bug disappeared almost as suddenly as it came and has not appeared since in the Greenwood Prairie area. However in 1934, near Kirksville, Mo., chinch bugs caused slight damage to crops. This was forty-three years after they had ravaged the Minnesota grain fields.

Grover Cleveland became president of the United States in 1885, succeeding Chester A. Arthur. Cleveland was the first Democratic president since Buchanan in 1856.

THE STUMP PULLER

The "Little Giant" stump puller, added to the Nelson farm equipment in the late eighties, revolutionized the method of clearing timber land, reducing gradually each year the amount of timber, by grubbing and clearing until less than fifty acres remained standing. With the new stump puller, land clearing became a major project. All the man power in the Nelson family with axes, saws, mauls and steel wedges, was in the timber every working winter day, slashing down the heavy oaks which were

cut in cord lengths for the market at Plainview. The huge brush piles were burned in early spring and the stump puller moved into position while Gypsy, the faithful mare, was put on the sweep. As the tension of the steel cable around the drum increased, the stubborn stump moved out of its solid anchorage in the soil. A big four horse breaking plow turned the root entangled soil and turnips were grown on that land the first year. The following year the rich land was added to the farm acreage. This rapid method of clearing reduced the timber land in a few years to less than twenty acres.

THE SORGHUM MILL

Each year on the Nelson farm an acre tract of land was set aside and planted to sugar cane. As it matured in the fall, the boys stripped the cane of its leaves after which it was cut and hauled to the sorghum mill operated by D. R. French, east of Plainview, where the juice was extracted and boiled down to a sorghum consistency. It was always a happy day in the Nelson family when the father returned home with two barrels of appetizing sorghum for the family table.

A saw mill was purchased for converting oak and poplar logs into valuable lumber and pickets for fencing. Logs were cut during the winter days and hauled to the mill on sleds where they were sawed into lumber in the early spring. The saw mill was powered by a wood burning Wabasha steam engine, which also provided power to operate a stone burr grist mill. Much oats and corn were ground into stock feed for at this time there were thirty head of cattle, sixty hogs and one hundred sheep. Among the horses there was a span of gray

mares named Gypsy and Lizzie. In addition to their valuable work on the farm, they foaled a fine pair of colts each year. Gypsy's colts were gray and developed into draft animals for farm work. Lizzie's colts were light sorrel, with graceful build and were fancy steppers. On reaching maturity each brought $80.00 on the Chicago market, where they became coach horses for the wealthy.

A good horse had a value of $40.00 and a good cow brought $20.00. Butter fat was from 13 to 18 cents and was picked up at the farm by A. Y. Felton. Farm butter had a trade-in value of 12 cents and eggs 6 cents per dozen at stores. Oak wood delivered in Plainview was worth from $3.00 to $4.00 per cord. Other farm prices were: beef cattle $3.01 to $3.92; hogs $3.33 to $3.85; barley 31 to 37 cents; corn 22 to 30 cents and oats 18 to 23 cents. The soil yielded a bountiful crop in that period from 1885 to 1889, even though it was ravaged by chinch bugs in some districts of the wheat belt. The big wheat yields glutted the market forcing the price to a low of 63 cents per bushel.

THE WOLF TAKES THE SHEEP

Sheep had been raised on the Nelson farm since its earliest days and numbered more than one hundred. The breeding of sheep had become unprofitable due to their low value at the markets. Wool was selling at 18 cents per pound and later dropped to an all time low of eleven cents. Due to these very unfavorable markets the entire flock was offered to the highest bidder. The purchaser was a Mr. Wolf, a farmer from Cooks Valley, who drove them off after paying $1.00 per head.

BENJAMIN HARRISON

The Democratic party did not remain in power beyond the term of Grover Cleveland, as Benjamin Harrison, a Republican, was inaugurated President of the United States in 1889, following a rousing election campaign. For the first time the citizens of Plainview witnessed a big and colorful torch-light parade preceding an enthusiastic Republican rally which jammed the streets of the little village as citizens gathered there from a large territory to view the unusual spectacle. The writer, then a farm boy, was overjoyed in being permitted to take part in the parade by carrying one of the lighted torches. The starting point of the parade was the railroad depot where torches were handed out from a box car and lighted as darkness set in. The parade of torches was several blocks long as it proceeded down Main street.

The summer of 1889 was exceptionally dry as precipitation measured less than seventeen inches. Not since 1864 had the farmers of Greenwood Prairie experienced such a drouth and it resulted in a near failure of all crops. The drouth, however, did not improve prices for the farmer because the hold-over wheat kept the market glutted, forcing the price of wheat to a low of 53 cents.

THE NELSON CAVERN

In a little valley on the Nelson farm was a forty foot depression which formed an entrance to the Nelson cave consisting of several chambers with ceilings and sidewalls of solid rock. The entrance chamber was the size of a small house. Each succeeding chamber became smaller with low openings leading into the next chamber. Torrents of water

from rains and melting snow found their way through openings in this subterranean passage and were discharged from a solid stone wall on West Indiian Creek, a mile away. The cave had many visitors who enjoyed the coolness of the place and its very unusual rock formation. Silt from the nearby cultivated fields has since filled the cavern and all traces of it have disappeared.

Another natural and very interesting formation on West Indian Creek, not far distant, was a rock ledge projecting into the valley, and was known as the "Old Fort." The surface of this formation was on the same level as surrounding land and it projected into the valley nearly a thousand feet, with the point of the projection only twenty feet in width. The face of the cliff was perpendicular and several hundred feet in height. In the upper portions of the cliff were cavities that resembled portholes of a fort. On the lower side was talus piled up in past ages that made it possible to enter the portholes of the fort from a lower level. The old fort was used as a lookout and signal point by the Indians for it commanded a clear view of the entire valley for a considerable distance. While the old fort was unknown to the general public, however, its unusual formation attracted many visistors.

WORK AND PLAY

The writer recalls that he earned his first money by riding a lead horse in the harvest field for Christ Pletke, at twenty-five cents a day. Occasionally opportunities came to the Nelson boys to earn a few dollars when autumn work on the farm was well finished. Perhaps it was in the harvest field in husking corn for the neighbors. They always managed

to get on the threshing crew before the season closed. For this they often got up at four o'clock in the morning, walked two miles to the machine that started to hum at daybreak, continuing through the day at high speed, and many times after dark to finish the setting. All they had to do after supper was to walk two miles home. For this work the wages were one silver dollar for the day. This was considered good pay and the boys were satisfied. They reasoned that if they worked one hundred days they would consider themselves quite wealthy with one hundred dollars.

As pastime for the Nelson boys, there was baseball, swimming, skiing, skating, bee hunting, and small game hunting in season. Each boy in the family owned a gun as soon as he was large enough to handle one and it was the old fashioned muzzle loading tube and cap musket. The black powder, then in use, puffed a cloud of smoke so dense that it completely screened the object shot at. Breach loading guns using brass shells came into use in the late eighties and smokeless powder a short time later. Small game was plentiful, such as prairie chicken, partridge, quail, squirrel and cottontail rabbit.

THE GAY NINETIES

The year 1890 has often been referred to as the beginning of the "Gay Nineties" that brought a wave of prosperity to Greenwood Prairie and the nation. The farmer harvested a bumper crop for that year and for the two following years. All the nineties were not gay, however, as the big crop glutted the market and tumbled wheat to an all time low of forty-seven cents though it later came back to sev-

enty-eight cents. Farm crops were almost a failure in 1893 due to lack of rain in the growing season and it was to affect farmer and business man alike. The winter snow was only a trace while the July and August rainfall was less than one-half an inch, with the result that pastures dried up and much of the farm crop withered. For the farmer it was almost a disaster. Farm prices for the period to 1895 were: beef cattle $3.29 to $3.58; hogs, $2.44 to $3.87; barley 31 to 41 cents; oats 25 cents; corn 30 to 51 cents and wool 11 to 18 cents.

ANNA KIRSTAD - OLSON

The death of Grandmother Anna Kirstad-Olson at the home of her son Edward Arnold Nelson, two miles north of Plainview, March 6, 1901, following her ninety-first birthday, marked the passing of one of the first generations of the Nelson family in America. For forty-seven years Grandmother Olson had resided on the original claim of the Nels Olson family in the new land. Anna Halvorsdatte Kirstad-Olson was born at Valdres, Norway, June 2, 1809; united in marriage to Nels Olson February 27, 1830; migrated to America with her husband and family in 1850, first settling at Cambridge, Wisconsin, then moving to Decorah, Iowa, two years later, then to Minnesota Territory in 1854.

Preceding her in death were her husband, two sons, Olaf and Rovang Christian, two daughters, Jane (Mrs. Hans Juelson), and Mary (Mrs. Andrew K. Anderson). Surviving were five sons: Ole, Oliver, Nels, Edward Arnold, Neele and a daughter, Sarah, (Mrs. Andrew Stavney.) Grandma Olson's early religious training was in the Lutheran Church. She became affiliated with the Methodist Church short-

ly after arriving in America. Her body lies at rest in Greenwood Cemetery, Plainview, Minnesota, beside that of her husband and children who preceeded her in death. Her descendents number 836, who were, or are, residents of many states, or provinces of Canada. Perpetual care of the family resting place has been provided for.

THE BREATHING WELL

It was not often that Plainview provided unusual attractions for its citizens, but one did occur before the village water system was completed in 1890. The village well that had for years provided the villagers with all the water they wished to pump and carry to their homes in buckets for household use, now refused to yield enough water to supply the increased population. In order to augment this water supply, the city fathers contracted with a driller to sink a new well on parking in the southeast corner of the school house ground. After reaching a considerable depth, the drill struck an underground cavern. The project was then abandoned and no trace of water was found, but the underground cavern at certain times of the day would draw in air and at other times would exhale air through its breathing windpipe, the well casing. This was a most unusual phenomenon. Perhaps Plainview will restore this breathing well as a very unusual attraction for tourists.

GROVER CLEVELAND'S SECOND TERM

Grover Cleveland became President of the United States for a second time in 1893, succeeding Harrison who had served for one term. Cleveland lost much of his popularity and support before the close

of his second term in office due to a whispering campaign, mostly by Republicans blaming him perhaps unjustly for the big labor strike in the coal fields. The strike tied up the coal industry so completely that the only coal ever seen was the hard coal nuggets carried as souvenirs. The strike and drouth period combined to create very difficult times for the farmers and merchants and continued until the end of the term. Cleveland was at odds with the stubborn Republicans who controlled Congress and vetoed many of the bills passed by it, which greatly vexed the legislators. Cleveland was an ardent fisherman and spent a great deal of his idle time angling on lakes not far distant from Washington. The Republicans complained bitterly about Cleveland's non-cooperation on national matters and formed the alphabetical slogan F. F. V. meaning fish, fish, and veto.

THE HINCKLEY FIRE

In 1884, the big Hinckley forest fire in northern Minnesota caused the death of eighteen persons and destroyed a vast area of virgin white pine timber. The disastrous fire lasted for several days, as was evidenced by the dense wood smoke carried to the Plainview vicinity by northerly winds. The neighboring state of Wisconsin experienced a more disastrous fire in 1871 when the village of Peshtigo was destroyed by fire fanned by heavy winds. This caused the death of 800 people and consumed a large section of standing white pine. While the Peshtigo fire was a soul-shaking event, it received very little publicity because it occurred on the same day as the big Chicago fire.

PROSPERITY COMES AGAIN

The gayest of the "Gay Nineties" covered a period from 1890 to 1900 following a drouth and hard times period. The heavens opened up and blessed Greenwood Prairie with a copious amount of rainfall. There was grass in the pastures and a big yield of the golden wheat in the fields at harvest time. Both the farmers and merchants prospered during this period though the markets remained low on everything the farmer had to sell, except cattle and hogs which showed considerable advance. Market prices for the period were: beef cattle, $3.85 to $4.91; hogs, $2.75 to $4.53; wheat 47 to 67 cents; barley, 18 to 20 cents; corn 16 to 30 cents; flax $.65 to $1.36 and butter, 12 to 16 cents.

NELSONS LEAVE THE FARM

It was with a great deal of reluctance and regret that Oliver Nelson chose to leave the farm which had been the family home for the previous fifty years; and where he and his family during this period of time had wrested from the wilderness one of the most productive and highly improved farms in that portion of the state. The family had endured many hardships and experienced the many sorrows and joys that were so common in the lives of the early settlers. So continuous had been the clearing of the land that only twenty acres of standing timber remained on the 200 acre farm. Perhaps more difficult to part with were the many good neighbors who had shared the pioneer life with them. Among these were the families of W. S. Baxter, Abe Marshall, George Burnham, Frank Washburn, F. A. Doane, Ira Humphrey, Mike Kane, Walter McNallan, August Paul, Andrew Helgerson, Fred

Glaesmer, Patrick Shields, John Curran, Mike Sullivan and others. When the fall work was completed in the late fall of 1893, Oliver Nelson and his family left the farm and moved into a newly constructed residence in the village of Plainview. Leaving the farm and farm work was not a retirement for Oliver Nelson, but rather a change of occupation. Early in 1894, he, with his brother-in-law, Ole Bren, established a furniture and undertaking business in Plainview, occupying a store building purchased in 1888. The building was then used as a hardware store by J. S. Bisby and later by A. P. Stafford. Ole Bren retained his interest in the business for only a short time. It was then taken over by Joseph S. Nelson who, with his father, established the Nelson Furniture Company, continuing the business until 1905. Oliver Nelson in 1901 constructed a modern two story brick store and office building which upon completion became the home of the Nelson Furniture Company.

WILLIAM McKINLEY

William McKinley became President of the United States in 1897, succeeding Grover Cleveland, who had completed his second term as president. Theodore Roosevelt followed McKinley as President of the United States after the tragic death of the latter on September 6, 1901, shortly following his second inauguration. Roosevelt served out McKinley's term and was elected to succeed himself in 1904.

MARKET PRICES

The farmers' prosperity continued through the period from 1900 to 1910, due to the normal rainfall during the growing season which resulted in

large yields of all farm crops. The greatest benefit came to the diversified farmers who received more for their livestock than they had previously obtained. Farm markets for the period were: beef cattle, $4.15 to $5.35; hogs, $4.29 to $8.16; sheep $2.25 to $4.62; wheat 56 cents to 99 cents; barley, 32 to 55 cents; oats, 24 to 44 cents; corn, 36 to 59 cents; flax, $.56 to $1.38; wool, 10 to 24 cents; butter, 16 to 25 cents and eggs 13 to 17 cents.

HOMESTEAD SOLD

The Nelson homestead on which the family had resided for fifty years passed to new owners and on March 4, 1904 Oliver Nelson conveyed by deed to William Koenig the 200 acre farm for a consideration of $15,000.00.

PIONEERS SUCCESSFUL IN BUSINESS

One of the most successful business men of the pioneer days was J. R. Watkins, who, during his lifetime carved for himself a place among the big businessmen of the nation. Mr. Watkins was born in Ohio and was among the early arrivals in Plainview. Having secured from Dr. Ward a formula for the making of Dr. Ward's Liniment, he prepared a few bottles at a time in his home and sold them from house to house in the village and from farm to farm until his supply was exhausted. Then he would return to his home to repeat the process. Mr. Watkins was an ambitious salesman and met with success from the beginning. Perhaps his greatest success came in 1883 when a severe epidemic of cholera and diphtheria swept over Greenwood Prairie.

The writer recalls very vividly being one of the diphtheria sufferers and that Ward's Liniment

was liberally used on the swab to cut the choking mucus in the throat. Doctors Gibbs, Tefft, Waste, and Roberts were the pioneer physicians who administered to the needs of the Plainview community. This, however, was the age of patent medicines and most families had a supply of "cure-alls for all human needs" on the pantry shelf. Up to the time of the epidemic, the sale of Ward's remedies had been limited to Plainview and surrounding territory but Mr. Watkins, being anxious to introduce his goods into other fields, bargained with his close friend, Oliver Nelson, selling to him one hundred, one dollar bottles of Ward's Liniment at eighteen cents per bottle. This liniment was shipped to relatives living in Brookings County, Dakota Territory. Perhaps this was the first effort of Mr. Watkins to expand his business, which, from a very humble beginning thus became world-wide. Mr. Watkins moved his manufacturing plant to Winona in 1885 in order to obtain better shipping facilities. In the nineties, he changed the name of the remedy to "Watkins Liniment," after an unsuccessful legal encounter with his business rivals, Landon and Burchard. There had been keen rivalry between them due to the determination of Mr. Watkins to control the sale of liniment and associated products under the Ward label. The new Watkins label served him well. Mr. Watkins' death occurred in 1911. Landon and Burchard, also of Plainview, manufactured liniment under the Ward label for many years. The medical department was organized into "The Ward's Medical Company" in early 1900 and moved to Winona where it grew and prospered under the able management of George C. Landon.

Thomas Lynch, a pioneer of Plainview Township, resided on a farm a mile north of Plainview on what was later known as the Stephens' farm. Mr. Lynch moved to Grafton, Dakota Territory in the eighties and established himself in the implement business and prospered with the development of the territory. Mr. Lynch transferred his business activities to San Diego, California and engaged in lumber and logging in a very successful way, by floating mammoth ocean-going log rafts from the Oregon timber to his mills in San Diego. He established a line of lumber yards throughout southern California.

William Koenig, Jr., a pioneer merchant of Plainview, together with Andrew Kuehn, also formerly of Plainview, having been employed at one time by the F. J. Cornwell store, in 1901 organized the Andrew Kuehn Wholesale Grocery Company at Sioux Falls, S. D., which they successfully operated for many years. William Koenig, Jr., died September 18, 1948.

EARLY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Plainview in early days staged elaborate celebrations on Memorial and Independence days. It was a day off, on those occasions for the Nelson kids who trekked to town early in the morning, with perhaps, a dime each, in their pockets to spend during the day's celebration.

The first event of the day was a big parade down the highly decorated Main Street with spectators lined along on the board walks. Heading the parade was the bugle corps consisting of Veterans D. C. Clark and Ed Balcom, closely followed by the brass band and a squadron of young Grand Army

boys, not many years returned from the Civil War front. Red lemonade flowed freely as the day warmed. The explosion of the firecrackers both small and large, with the roar of the blacksmith anvil and the army cannon manned by the G. A. R. boys, provided the noise so essential in a successful celebration.

The celebration continued throughout the afternoon with horse racing and baseball. A wire fence enclosed the tracks and field. A ticket purchased at the gate entitled the holder to both events. The little cash the Nelson kids had brought to town with them had long been spent, but they just had to see the races and the baseball game to round out their day's celebration. When the time for the events arrived they joined others, likewise without funds, in front of the entrance gate. With a big push by everyone, the gate reluctantly opened due to heavy outside pressure and upwards of another hundred spectators enjoyed the afternoon sports without paying the entrance fee.

A balloon ascension was often staged in the calm of the evening in some nearby cow pasture. When the balloon became inflated from the gas of a wood fire, a man, but more often a daring and charming young lady, would ascend to a great height tucked in the balloon cage, then sail back to earth in a parachute and land somewhere some distance away. The concluding number on the days program would be the old fashioned bowery dance lasting way into the night. A three mile walk back to the farm completed the celebration for the Nelson boys.

PLAINVIEW - ELGIN

Plainview and Elgin, the twin villages of Greenwood Prairie came into being, more than a hundred years ago. Under the guidance of progressive business men and the development of the farming community, Greenwood Prairie has often times been referred to as one of the garden spots of Minnesota.

Plainview was so named because it was located on the highest elevation on the prairies, with a plain view in all directions. One of the most important municipal improvements which lifted Main Street out of a quagmire of mud in wet weather came in 1893. The town council arranged with the Northwestern Railroad to build a spur track to a side hill south of Elgin where a limestone quarry was opened. Stone by the trainload was brought into Plainview, hauled to Main Street, which had been excavated, and dumped. Scores of men swinging heavy stone hammers pounded the stone to a smooth surface. The project was not completed until the old wooden hitching posts were replaced with steel rail hitching posts. Further town improvements were made in 1894 when the plank walks in the business district were replaced with cement. This was a new venture as cement for sidewalk construction was revolutionary. There were many youngsters with watchful eyes present as the planks of the old walks were raised, ready to claim coins and other valuables that had been lost by falling through the cracks in the old walk. However, none became wealthy. The water works system under construction for some time was giving limited services to business and residence sections. Electric light and telephone service were being rapidly expanded. With all these civic improvements, the town of Plain-

view, with a population nearly 1,000, assumed a more metropolitan appearance. At the time of this writing the population is nearly 2,000.

Plainview, Nebraska, is located on the northern plains of the states and has a population of 1500 people. The Chamber of Commerce of Plainview, Nebraska related how the town received its name.

"The village of Plainview was organized October 27, 1880. A delegation of citizens appeared at the first meeting of the board to help choose a name for the new village. There was a lively discussion which lasted way into the night as all names proposed were voted down. Agreement could not be reached. A visitor staying there for the night who had been invited to attend the meeting, asked permission to address the gathering.

"I am not a resident of your community," he said. "I happened to be passing through and stopping here for the night, was invited to attend this meeting. Inasmuch as you cannot agree on a name for your village, I wish to suggest the name of Plainview. Plainview is the name of a nice little village on the prairie land of southern Minnesota where I recently lived. Your village is also on prairie land and in plain view for many miles. I think that it will be a very appropriate name for your village." The name was adopted without further discussion.

Plainview, Texas with a population of 9,000, is located on the prairie of northern Texas. A very unusual feature of the town is that most of the residences are constructed of brick. The farms in that community produce an abundant yield of wheat and cotton. Cattle raising also produces a large revenue. There is also Plainview, South Dakota;

Plainview, Colorado; Plainview, Arkansas; Plainview, Illinois and Plainview, Virginia.

Elgin, Minnesota: It is not recorded how the town derived its name, but it is presumed that many of the early settlers who were descendents of English parents proposed the name of Elgin in memory of Lord Elgin who was prominent in England's Parliament in early 1800's. The population of Elgin is 500.

Elgin, Ill., with a population of more than 50,000 is located not far from Chicago, and is the largest American city by that name. Its industry is manufacturing, backed by a rich farming community. Elgin, Texas, with a population of 4,000 is located in the heart of Texas. Elgin, Nebraska has a population of 1,500 and is a near neighbor of Plainview. Elgin, Oregon, population 882; Elgin, Iowa, 642; Elgin Oklahoma, 428; Elgin, Tennessee, 350; Elgin, Kansas, 212; Elgin, Pennsylvania, 202; Elgin, Arizona, 143; Elgin, Ohio, 126 and Elgin, Nevada, 50.

AS IT WAS AT PLAINVIEW

Light for the home before the advent of coal oil was the tallow candle.

Joseph R. Watkins' first business venture was making a few bottles of Wards Liniment and selling it from house to house.

The family of Dr. Gibbs brought the first piano to Plainview. The two daughters became talented musicians. They later became the wives of Drs. Tefft and Adams.

On the farm: Four barrels of wet wood ashes in a row dripped enough lye, combined with some fat, provided enough soft soap for all family needs.

The first automobile seen on Greenwood Prairie roads was in the early Gay Nineties.

Paul Johnson, a likeable clerk at Koenig's store, dished up sugar at twenty pounds for a dollar.

On the farm: Shoes for men and boys were unknown before the Gay Nineties. The Nelson boys wore high boots with bright red leather tops and copper tips on the sole. The day was never done until the bootjack, hung back of the kitchen door, was brought out to aid in removing the boots. A good grease job and they were ready for use the next morning.

Theo. Saxe and Charles Rogers were the photographers. Rogers produced many good views of the Plainview Street Fair parades.

Hoop skirts were the style in the eighties. Women were not properly dressed throughout the Gay Nineties unless they wore a bustle.

Derby LaRock, Harry Smith, Al Drysdale and Frank Wood were the barbers. Hair cuts a quarter, shaves ten cents, shampoo extra. Many fancy shaving mugs lined the shelves on the wall cabinet.

On the farm: Rattle snakes were numerous on the Nelson back forty. Often times in harvest they were bound in the bundles with grain.

Harry and Fred Weikel operated the west end meat market. Fred threw in the liver free. Brueske and Hansen operated the east end market.

The first telephone appeared in the early Gay Nineties. It was installed in Koenig's store. Many were surprised when they heard Adolph Briese talking German into it.

Marshall Brothers were landlords at the Plainview Hotel. They made all trains with the baggage

cart, when meals were ready they sounded the triangle. They were followed by A. Rockwell.

Miss Maggie Lambie operated a millinery store next to Nelsons. Her line was dresses and hats. She also sold bustles.

On the other side was A. Davy's Saloon. There was always a dish of free crackers on the end of the bar. Two doors to the east was Erding Brothers, Julius and Albert. Besides operating their saloon, they were successful deer hunters, in season.

Prize possession in the Nelson family is a spinning wheel brought to America by their mother in 1865. It is more than a hundred years old. Also there is an iron bound chest which bears the date of 1722.

Riefkogel Bros. were west end harnessmakers. Al played with the band for many years.

Julius Fricke and son, Al, were east end harnessmakers. They also sold buggy whips.

Henry K. Oliverson was a pioneer merchant. He later formed a partnership with A. C. Woodcock.

Fred Dickerman operated a gun shop, sold bicycles, and made washing machines.

Herman Thom was the exclusive shoe dealer. He also pegged shoes. Charles Bush was his successor.

Thomas G. Bolton and two sons, Milton and John were the south side druggists. They also published the Bolton Gleaner, occasionally, as a store advertiser.

Landon and Burchard were the north side druggists. They also made Dr. Wards liniment. George C. Landon later moved to Winona and C. D. Bur-

chard formed a partnership with Charles Reiter.

B. Leininger, Harry Austin, J. A. LaCraft, Charles Behner, and Henry Eggers were the watchmakers. Behner later moved to Billings, Montana.

J. S. Bisby was a pioneer northside hardware dealer. He was succeeded by A. P. Stafford who preceded George Duerre.

Rock Cornwell was a south side hardware dealer for many years.

W. G. Edwards was the first automobile dealer and for many years operated a machine repair shop. L. O. Lundquist operated a wagon shop in the east end.

R. R. Damoude and son, Charles, were early farm machine dealers. R. W. Carpenter, Herman Schwantz and M. A. Grove and sons also dealt in farm machinery and buggies.

On the farms: Not many of the first settlers possessed watches or clocks. Their timepiece was the sun.

The dentists of the early days were Drs. Roberts, Tabor, and Carpenter. They were followed by Robinson, Duerre, Smith and Carpenter. Dr. Roberts was a traveling dentist.

The most disastrous fire in the early nineties destroyed the Koenig grain elevator. A volunteer bucket brigade saved the elevator to the east.

Henry Norton was the first wagon maker. His service was in great demand by the early settlers.

A canning factory was organized in the early nineties by enterprising citizens. After two failures it was sold to a corporation which made a success of it.

Perhaps the most enthusiastic hunters were the Stephan brothers, Herman and Walter, who lived a mile north of town. In addition to owning good guns, they possessed a kennel of coon hounds that made the coon chase ring with their baying.

A runaway of a farmer's team down Main Street was exciting, but disastrous. It happened occasionally.

Frank A. Wells, a strong Democrat, served as postmaster during Cleveland's administration. His daughter, Maud, was his assistant.

C. D. Lewis and T. C. Utterback were principals at the high school during early nineties. Utterback was a minister before and Lewis after their service to the school.

George R. Hall was a long time manager of Laird Norton Lumber Yards. He was succeeded by L. J. Gilbert. Mr. Hall later served as postmaster.

Frank J. Cornwell, a native of Georgia, operated a general store for many years. He was assisted by a nephew, T. A. Askew. Many clerks remembered were George H. Dickman, Henry J. Eggers, Otto Huney, Harry Balcom, Henry Binder, Lyda Finch, Mary Burnham and Ida McFarland.

George H. Denton was the first depot agent. He was a brother of Mrs. Del Pomeroy. He later organized the Tri-State Wholesale Electric Supply Co., at Sioux Falls. M. L. Manchester served as agent during the nineties. He later engaged in grain business.

John Waste, Dan McFarland and A. C. Woodcock became the dray line operators. Mr. Woodcock became the first dealer in bulk gasoline.

Joe Frisheim and later Ed. McCollough constituted a one man police force during the nineties. They pumped water for the town during their rest period.

A bubbling water fountain across from Landon and Burchard store satisfied the thirst of farmers horses.

T. J. Wadleigh was the first furniture dealer and undertaker. He was succeeded by his son-in-law, A. W. Craig. Following Craig was the Nelson Furniture Co. and M. A. Grove and Sons.

Purvis Bros. and Hostettlers were the town blacksmiths. They shod horses and set wheel rims.

J. H. Davis directed the Plainview Bank. Sylvester Bros., Edward and Frank, were his successors. Ed and Frank were annual big game hunters in the northern woods. The bank was later taken over by W. H. Zabel and Sons. The First National Bank came into being in the early nineties. Among the promoters was George Wedge.

R. Burkhardt and son, Alfred, were makers of clay brick. They supplied Plainview and community with their product for several years.

Julius Reiter, born west of town, served as mayor of Rochester for several terms.

Koenig Brothers; Will, Arthur and Albert, operated a large department store founded by their father, William. The corporation later included Adolph Brieze and Frank Schad.

Koenig Brothers later operated a department store at Sioux Falls.

Gardner and Carl Colby, Royal Horton, John Stevens, Fred Weikel, Al Riefkogel and Charles

Feisheim were the early members in the Plainview Cornet Band. Prof. J. A. Conway organized the Greenwood Concert Band in the late nineties.

The business men organized the Merchants Association and were very active in promoting the welfare of the town during the nineties. A memorable occasion was a meeting at Rochester at which time the group was addressed by Dr. William Worrell Mayo, the founder of Mayo Clinic.

George H. Dickman was for many years a clothing merchant. After retirement he became a successful real estate operator.

If your neighbor had a cow, he sold you a pail of milk for five cents. It was much more than a quart.

A. Y. Felton operated a creamery in the early days. His cream wagon called at the prairie farms.

Barney Riley drove the Plainview-Wabasha stage line for many years.

S. J. Lillie, Fred Hays and Pete Pettit were the livery barn operators.

Alexander Rock was a stone mason.

On the farm: The big storm in the winter of 1888 piled snow high over line fences. A heavy rain followed in a few days which coated the snow with thick ice. Kids on skates traveled all over the neighborhood.

The Plainview Street Fair was organized in 1900. It was very successful, even though they were unable to pick days without a downpour of rain.

Perhaps the biggest boost to Plainview was the installation of a waterworks system in the early nineties.

Lawton Brothers were south side grocery merchants for many years.

On the farm: Wages with a threshing crew were a dollar a day. The working day was from daybreak to dark, sometimes later. Occasionally the chinch bugs were first to reap the harvest.

Pat Murray was the first priest to serve the local Catholic Church.

Rev. G. Drews was the early pastor of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

T. E. Utterback served the Church of Christ as pastor during the same period.

A. L. Loomis served as pastor of the Congregational Church in the early nineties.

Rev. William Gillis was pastor of the Methodist Church in the nineties. He promoted an extensive church remodeling program. Many of the Nelson boys became members of the church in 1903.

Frank Meachum and son, Gill, operated a flour and grist mill for a number of years.

Fred Weikel, Al Fricke and Alton Davis were among the best players on the Plainview Gay Ninety baseball team. Their worthy rivals were the Gainey Brothers of Elba.

H. P. Wilson and J. F. Pope were the pioneer attorneys. They were followed by S. S. Lyons, James A. Carley, A. A. Burkhardt, R. R. Dunlap and Fred Gerber.

Mr. Carley served for many years as state senator. His outstanding service to the state was his aggressive stand on state ore tax. He presented the state with a large tract of land on the Whitewater River for a state park. Mr. Dunlap is now serving as state senator.

Doctors serving Plainview in the early days and thereafter were Dr. Gibbs, Dr. N. S. Tefft, Dr. J. P. Waste, Dr. F. H. Roberts, Dr. E. S. Muir, Dr. E. A. French, Dr. J. A. Slocumb, and Dr. Robert Glabe.

A. B. W. Norton served many years as Justice of the Peace.

The G. A. R. Hall was the only playhouse and was very popular.

The Plainview News has been a welcome visitor to many homes on Greenwood Prairie for more than eighty years. For a number of years it was under the able management of Lee Meachum, who disposed of his interests to T. G. Bolton. Bolton was not a stranger in newspaper work as he had for a long time published a store paper which was distributed free. Following a disastrous fire which completely destroyed the News plant, it came into possession of Will G. Mack, who consolidated it with his publication, the Plainview Record.

Will G. Mack was well qualified by his years in newspaper work to manage his new possession. He seldom missed a trip to the depot on arrival or departure of trains. By his courteous and understanding service to the public, he made the News one of the most progressive weekly newspapers in the territory. Will G. Mack is not there now, but he has left the News in good hands, those of his son, Robert J. and grandson, Robert M. Mack.

Charles A. Venables drove a spanking team of horses hitched to a shining medicine wagon when he called on the farmers of Greenwood Prairie, dispensing Watkins medicine and spices.

Many of the first settlers had no matches. They

learned from the Indian how to start a fire by friction. Many maintained beds of hot coals in the back yard from which fire was transferred to the kitchen stove when needed.

Home made oxcarts were often times seen with wooden wheels cut from large logs.

Butchers in 1860 sold good beef at ten cents per pound. Pork shoulders were a little more.

Corn in 1932 brought the farmer ten cents per bushel. His hogs were worth two cents per pound. Eggs sold at Elgin stores during Cleveland's administration at three cents per dozen.

Store prices in 1938 were: Sirloin or T-bone 15 cents per pound; bacon ten cents; coffee twenty-four cents; fifty pound sack of flour $1.29; and ten pounds of sugar for thirty-nine cents.

Engineer Huxley and Conductor Pendergast piloted the Plainview - Eyota train during the Gay Nineties. The only serious accident was where the train rammed a forgotten flat car parked on the mainline track a few miles west of Plainview. On one occasion there were no trains for a week due to a heavy snow blockade. A rotary snow plow finally cleared the track.

In the 53 years since the writer left Plainview it has always been a pleasure to return for a visit and again visit the Nelson homestead, the place of his birth. There his father took squatters' rights to a piece of land in what was a wilderness in 1854, and this later became his farm. The farm is now owned by Michael Schneider, who is also the owner of the Nels Olson homestead. The heavy oak forest which at one time covered a large portion of the land has been reduced to a few acres. The farm

house and some of the smaller buildings were replaced with modern structures. The big basement barn built in 1880 stands strong and sturdy as it did the day of construction. The land with its black soil is as productive as it was the day the first sod was turned. The farm today is considered among the best on Greenwood Prairie. It has been interesting to note that the progressive citizens of Plainview have promoted many important civic improvements that have made their town an outstanding one among the towns of southern Minnesota.

The near neighbors who were pioneers were W. S. Baxter, Abe Marshall, Frank Washburn, Andrew Helgerson, L. V. Rich, George C. Richmond, John and Knute Lee, Fred Glaesmer, J. M. Alden Shields, Mike Kane, Mike and Dan Sullivan, Mike E. C. Geary, John Boehlke, S. H. Gaylord, A. J. Olin and M. A. Grove. Not many of the original families remain on the land.

MARY ANN HALVORSON — NELSON

(Quoting from Plainview News.)

"Mrs. Oliver Nelson, an old and respected pioneer resident of Greenwood Prairie, for forty years and who, a few weeks ago moved to Sioux Falls, S. D., passed away at the home of her son Joseph, July 19, 1913. The name of the deceased was Mary Ann Halvorson, born at Ordahl, Norway, January 27, 1845 where she grew to womanhood. She came to this country with her parents in 1868 and located in Plainview. She was united in marriage to Oliver Nelson on December 31, 1870. They made their home on the farm in Highland where they continued to live until 1903 when they built a fine home in this village. Becoming aged and infirm from the hard-

ships of early days, they gave up active work, disposed of their farm and made their home here continuously until a few weeks ago when they moved to a new home expecting to spend their declining years in contentment. They left here about June 6.

"Mrs. Nelson was a noble hearted, Christian woman, a kind friend, and neighbor. She became a member of the Methodist Church forty-four years ago and had always lived a conscientious Christian life. A woman of high regard she was greatly admired by her many friends of the early days. She is survived by her aged husband and eight sons: Nicholas H., Toronto, S. D.; Anton C., Plainview; Albert, Hendricks, Minnesota; Otis C., Camrose, Canada; John H., Colorado Springs, Colorado; Joseph S., Sioux Falls, S. D.; Rev. Fred C., Chester, Mont., and Cyrus, Whitefish, Mont. A son and a daughter preceeded her in death. She is also survived by a brother in Norway, Ole Bren.

Short funeral services were held at the home in Sioux Falls on Sunday afternoon and the remains, accompanied by Joseph and Cyrus Nelson, were brought to Plainview on Monday. Funeral services were conducted from the home of her son, Anton, Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock, Rev. J. H. Jeffrey officiating. Internment was made in the family lot in Greenwood Cemetery."

OLIVER NELSON

(Quoted from the Plainview News, Feb. 11, 1916.)

"Oliver Nelson, former early pioneer and esteemed resident of Greenwood Prairie, passed away at the home of his son, Albert, at Hendricks, Minn., death being due mainly to the infirmities of old age. The news of his death was sad indeed to his

many Plainview friends and former associates. While the deceased had been somewhat feeble for the last few years, his late illness was but a few weeks.

"The deceased was born in Norway, January 27, 1835. His parents were Nels and Anna Olson. Oliver, according to the custom of his native country, took the given name of his father and applied thereto the suffix 'son' for his surname. When fifteen years of age he came with his parents to America. The family first settled near Madison, Wis., and remained there two years. In 1852 they removed to Decorah, Iowa, coming from there to Wabasha County in 1854, and being numbered among the earliest settlers of this prairie. He was married to Ingebor Helgerson in 1856. She died October 26, 1868, and two years later he again married, this time to Mary Ann Halvorson, also a native of Norway. In 1854 Mr. Nelson prempted land in Highland Township where he resided for many years. In 1913, together with his wife, he moved to Sioux Falls where he erected a fine home and expected to spend the remainder of his days. On July 19 of that year his wife passed away. Shortly after her death he went to make his home with his son, where he has since resided.

"Mr. Nelson was a true pioneer and knew all the hardships of early life, struggling for a meagre existence during his first years. His parents being in poor circumstances it became necessary for them to borrow a portion of the money that brought them to this country. Thus it fell to his lot and that of his oldest brother to assist in paying this debt. They labored hard to accomplish this and were thus deprived of attending school and receiving

an education. In consequence, the only education he received other than that gained by experience was received in his younger days before leaving Norway. On his arrival he had but little to assist him financially, and like many another pioneer, faced many hardships and privations. Yet with indomitable will, usual to such sturdy stock, he set to work to clear away the forest and build a home. The first house was built of logs, cut from their own land.

"As the years passed by he succeeded and when the infirmities of old age had overtaken him he had laid by a satisfactory competency and retired from active life. Moving to this city he erected a fine home, became the owner of several residences and built a fine brick business block.

Oliver Nelson was a man of good business ability, a kind neighbor and friend; a man of sterling worth and character, who met his every obligation and was highly thought of by all. He took deep interest in his fellow men, gladly lending aid and encouragement by word and deed. His life among the pioneers of this locality will live long after him."

GREENWOOD CEMETERY

A visit home was not complete without a visit to Greenwood Cemetery, where grandparents and many relatives of this writer lie at rest. A stroll among the markers reveal the names of many friends. Some were elderly, others middle aged, or young when this writer was young. All gathered here in beautiful Greenwood Cemetery, their last resting place.

NICHOLAS H. NELSON

* * *

Nicholas H. Nelson, son of Oliver and Ingebor Nelson, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Territory of Minnesota, August 13, 1859. He assisted with farm work at home until the early spring of 1880 when he purchased a span of mules which he named Jak and Jen. They were three year olds of medium size and dark in body color. Jen's nose was blended lighter while the lighter

JAK and JEN

blending on Jak extended from his eyes to include his nose. His ears were just a little longer, too. They were gentle, intelligent and did not seem to possess the mean traits found in many mules. His purchases also included a breaking plow, farm tools and provisions for a long overland journey. Early one April morning, Nick was joined by two friends, Knute Halverson and Henning Oliverson, who owned a team of horses, and harnesses for them.

The mules were hitched to the wagon and the horses tied to the end gate. Everything was in read-

iness, the mules took this first steps of the overland trek to the far away Dakota Territory where the men expected to file homestead claims to the rich prairie land so recently opened to settlement. They charted their course due west guided by the setting sun, over trails made by others before them. Skirting clumps of timber, fording streams and rivers, mile after mile over what seemed like an endless prairie, but always westward. On the first part of the journey they passed well established homesteads where the farmers were preparing their wheat fields for crops. As they neared Dakota, it was the homesteaders shanties that dotted the landscape.

The journey was slow, tedious and tiresome. Mixed with hardships and pleasures alike, as the mules plodded along day after day and mile after mile, they brought the caravan a little nearer Dakota. At the close of the day, the mules and horses were picketed out to grass for the over night stay, while Nick and companions prepared the evening meal over a camp fire. Occasionally their menu was added to by a prairie chicken or wild duck as both game birds were plentiful. In the distance a train could be seen rumbling its way westward over a newly made track. The railroads were to play an important part in the development of the land on the broad Dakota prairies. Nick and his companions were at last nearing the end of their journey. A crude roadsign contained the information that they were then in Dakota. Nick gathered a handful of Dakota soil. It was rich, black loam and he was sure that it would produce a bountiful crop. It would be near here where he would select his homestead claim. To own a Dakota farm would mean independence and a small fortune in the near future.

Many land seekers were there ahead of them. Some with oxen, others with mules or horses, all eager to secure a homestead in this new land.

Jak and Jen, the faithful mules had contributed their part toward a successful journey. To show his appreciation, Nick petted them, ran his fingers through their short cropped manes and praised them for bringing them safely to the Dakota Land.

Nick, this day, fed them their last portion of oats. Hereafter their menu for a time would be green grass only, grown on the Dakota prairie. The mutual understanding existing between Nick and his pet mules was to mean a lot to him in his coming bachelor days.

Just a few miles to the south and just over the Dakota border was the new town of Elkton. It was the end of the rail line built by the Chicago and Dakota Railway Co. the year before, and extended from Tracy, Minnesota, a distance of forty-six miles. Elkton consisted of a store with Post Office and a few shanties. There was a further extension of the railroad in 1880 by the newly organized Dakota Central Railway Co., which built a twenty-four mile railroad extending almost due west from Elkton, platting the towns of Aurora, Brookings and Volga. The building of the railroad was a big boost for the new country. It was not long until all available homestead land was taken up in the surrounding territory. It was not difficult for Nick and his companions to find land to their liking, as there was free land everywhere, one piece seemingly as good as another.

Government surveying crews had recently completed their work in that section, so that section

corners were easily located. Nick's selection of land was a quarter in Argo Township, Brookings County, consisting of 160 acres. The early settlers had the choice of filing homestead claims or pre-empting the land and paying a small sum per acre after completion of a required residence. Nick chose the pre-emption plan and in due time received his patent signed by President Arthur.

The first improvement on the land was a homesteader's shanty and shelter for Jak and Jen. The buildings were of rough sawed lumber hauled from Elkton, twenty miles away. A twelve foot well in the draw produced a good supply of clear water. Knute and Henning also secured land nearby. The three homesteaders exchanged work in breaking the prairie sod. The horses on the breaker and the mules on the lead, the stubborn sod was turned and would be ready for the sowing of next year's wheat. As their first summer in Dakota was drawing to a close, the three homesteaders viewed with satisfaction their first season's work, which was the breaking of nearly twenty-five acres which would be sown to wheat and oats the next spring.

Jak and Jen were in good condition followng a summer of hard work. They were Nick's only companions on the homestead, and he spent many of his idle and lonely hours with them as he curried and brushed their hairy bodies. He talked to them as he would a person. While there were no answers, except a movement of their big ears, he believed they understood, at least to some extent. There was perhaps not another span of mules in all Dakota that received so much attention and petting as Jak and Jen. The late September days brought crispness to the air, and chilly winds from the northwest, were a

reminder to the homesteaders of approaching winter. The longing to return to the homes of parents and friends in eastern Minnesota grew stronger as their days of idleness numbered. If they remained they would have only one thing to do, that would be to twist hay for the burners.

There was an art in hay twisting to make the twist so solid that it would last longer in the burner. It was amazing how quickly a cylinder of hay burned out and how little heat it produced. The cast iron stove used in conjunction with the straw burner was a wood burner. It, however, was useless for that purpose as there was no timber on the Dakota prairies.

It was early morning after the doors and windows of the shanties had been boarded up that Jak and Jen, were hitched to the farm wagon which had again been invested with its discarded conestoga top and equipment. Knute, Henning and Nick bounced to the spring seat, and the return trip to Minnesota was underway. The load was light as it included only their personal belongings, a gun with ammunition, wagon box of hay for bedding and a scanty amount of grub. The money possessed by the three was only a few silver dollars. This they reasoned would, with strict economy, last them until they reached Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, as they would be living mostly off the land as prairie chickens and wild ducks were plentiful along the way.

The mules were headed eastward over the unbroken prairie to reach the well traveled trail. Jak and Jen, too, seemed to sense that they were going back home as they walked a little faster and their stride was a little longer. The three travelers were well fed at the beginning of their journey. Their

silver dollars purchased cheese, coffee and crackers at roadside trading posts. This with wild game prepared over a camp fire, provided a satisfying meal.

However the travelers were soon to experience a more restricted menu as their little hoard of silver became exhausted before they reached Sleepy Eye. This reduced their menus to wild game alone. While wild game was of the choicest food, it, alone, soon lost favor wth the travelers who were in a starved condition on reaching Sleepy Eye. Sleepy Eye was a new town and consisted of a store, few houses and a railroad station. As soon as they had made camp, and Jak and Jen staked out to prairie grass, Nick made his way to the little railway station and talked the agent into sending a message for him and risk getting the fee at the other end. The message was to Nick's parents urgently asking for $50, so that their journey could be resumed.

There was joy in the camp when Nick arrived bringing an armful of store groceries, such as cheese, crackers, coffee, butter and loaves of bread from a private home. So starved were Henning and Knute for something to eat besides wild game, that they ran to meet Nick, tore off big hunks of bread and ate until their hunger was satisfied. The travelers resumed their journey with an abundant amount of food which lasted them until the mules took them safely into the yard of their old home at Plainview. The travelers had no more than reached home when it was reported that a big blizzard was raging in Dakota Territory, which lasted throughout the 12th, 13th, and 14th of October. Snow was reported five feet deep on the land, with drifts lasting until the following May. Many lives were reported lost. Flood waters in the spring of 1881 caused a great deal

of damage along the course of the Big Sioux and other Dakota rivers.

The Dakota homesteaders were extremely busy the first few days of April, 1881, preparing to return to their land. A fifty pound pig was slaughtered, packed in brine to provide them with meat for the journey. With a goodly amount of provisions packed in the covered wagon, Jak and Jen were again on the trail headed westward to the Dakota homesteads where seeding grain on the new breaking awaited them. All evidence of the big storm had disappeared before their arrival, except snow drifts left over from the big storm. The soil was in good condition due to the large amount of winter moisture. This forecasted a big grain crop. It was a busy summer for Nick. Following the sowing of his grain by hand broadcast, he enlarged his fields for the next year. The growing season was ideal, which resulted in a bountiful harvest of wheat and oats. The grain was cut with a hand scythe, bound into bundles by hand and put into shocks to cure.

Threshing came later, so that the frozen ground served as a threshing floor. A few neighbors were asked to come and bring their flails for a threshing bee. The pounding separated the wheat from the straw. The oats were for Jak and Jen and were stacked near the stable. The autumn days required cutting and gathering of the coarse prairie hay which was stacked near the shanty door, to be brought in and burned for fuel. A large stack of short prairie hay was gathered for Jak and Jen's winter feed. The gathering of hay was a slow process as it was all cut with a scythe.

Their first Dakota winter set in with a mixture of good and bad weather. A trip to the mill

was necessary to lay in a supply of flour for the winter. The nearest flour mill was at Aurora, a little village on the new railroad twenty-five miles away to the southwest.

Leaving his uncle, Ole Bren, who was staying the winter with him, at home, Nick loaded the sleigh with sacks of wheat and headed Jak and Jen over the trail leading to Aurora. The sky became overcast with the change of wind to the northwest. The storm struck before Nick reached Aurora. Realizing the possibility of a blizzard, he hurriedly exchanged his wheat for flour, did some store shopping and headed the mules homeward on the trail. The trail became difficult to follow at times due to storm conditions. The storm intensified. By mid-afternoon a blizzard was raging with a heavy fall of snow. Visibility was limited to the backs of the mules. Jak and Jen were plodding along at a slow pace.

Nick realized that the reins were useless in his hands, so let them slip to the floor of the sleigh putting all his trust in the mules to save his life by finding the way home.

Nick sat in the open sleigh with hands under the buffalo robe. He had no idea as to where they were but hoped that the mules did. Darkness came. The landscape and mules became invisible. He could feel the movement of the sleigh, so knew that the mules were in motion. The severity of the storm continued unabated. After traveling for an incalculable time, the mules came to an abrupt stop. In surprise, Nick looked up. In front of him was a bright light. A lighted lamp had been placed in the shanty window by Uncle Ole. It was a happy ending to what may have been a serious incident. Jak and Jen had

brought Nick safely home and for their reward they were rubbed dry in the warm stable, curried, brushed and given an extra portion of feed. Jak and Jen received an endless amount of praise and petting for their show of intelligence and faithfulness during the storm.

The Dakota prairie was soon transformed into farm land as the homesteaders turned the sod with the big breakers. There were rumors of a railroad through the settlement, which materialized in 1886, when the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad was built from Estherville to Watertown. Several new towns were built along the new line, the nearest being Toronto, four miles to the north. Toronto became the market and trading place for a large territory. A division of Dakota Territory came in 1889, creating therefrom the states of North and South Dakota. The act of Congress did not concern the settlers a great deal. Perhaps the only immediate benefit was a show of progress and more political prestige in Washington.

Jak and Jen were now advanced in years, but still had sale value. Nick debated in his mind the question of selling them and purchasing horses, as many of his neighbors had done. It would be hard to part with them as they had been his close companions on the farm for so many years. As he cared for them, he talked to them about what he planned to do. Nick groomed them to look their best the morning he started driving them to the horse and mule sale market at Elkton, twenty miles to the south.

The journey was without incident until nearing Elkton when Jak developed a limp. Nick halted the mules and carefully examined the hoof. Find-

ing no evidence of injury, the journey was resumed. Jak continued to limp and his condition seemed more aggravated than before. Again they were halted and a more thorough examination made. Nick used his jack knife to clean the hoof until it was perfectly clean. There appeared to be no injury. The journey was again resumed. Jak's limp was more serious than before. For the third time Nick examined the hoof. He was perplexed as to the cause of the lameness. He patted Jen on the nose as he said to her, "What's the matter, Jen? Can't you limp a little too?"

To Nick's astonishment Jen also had a limp. The limping of the mules became more serious and they really stumbled into Elkton. The mules had spoiled the sale of themselves but had saved a home for themselves with Nick for the rest of their lives. On their return home Jak and Jen showed no lameness but trotted as if they were three year olds. Nick classed them as smart mules.

Nicholas H. Nelson retired from the farm after twenty years and formed a partnership with Peter Sorenson to deal in farm machinery which lasted until 1904. He later represented the International Harvester Company as fieldman until taking up building contracting. He became manager of the Farmers Lumber Co., at Toronto in 1925, retiring in 1935, due to failing health.

Nicholas H. Nelson was united in marriage to Jane Jerde, December 20, 1900. Jane Jerde, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Jerde was born at Albert Lea, Minn., November 6, 1877. Her parents were born in Norway, migrating to America and settling in Argo Township, Brookings County, Dakota Territory, in 1878. To their union were born, Ina R., Sept.

21, 1902; died Aug. 14, 1910; Henry J. April 19, 1904; Alice L. July 6, 1906; Florence Idella, April 22, 1908; Blanche L. June 11, 1911 and Roy E. Nov. 5, 1915.

HENRY J. NELSON

* * * *

Henry J. Nelson son of Nicholas and Jane Nelson was born at Toronto, S. D. April 19, 1904; united in marriage to Freda Storagaard Sept. 1, 1935. Freda Storagaard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pier Storagaard was born at Revere, Minnesota, Oct. 18, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Fairfax, Minn., where they are engaged in business.

ALICE L. NELSON

* * * *

Alice L. Nelson, daughter of Nicholas H. and Jane Nelson was born at Toronto, S. D. July 6, 1906, united in marriage to Raymond A. Moore, Nov. 27, 1926. Ray Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Moore, was born at Scalesmound, Ill., Aug. 4, 1895. To their union were born a son and daughter, Ronald A. Apr. 22, 1927, and Catheryn J. Aug. 1, 1928. Ronald A. Moore enlisted in the U. S. Navy and served in the South Pacific. Mr. and Mrs. Moore are farmers and reside near Toronto, S. D.

RONALD A. MOORE

* * * * *

Ronald A. Moore, son of Alice L. and Raymond G. Moore, was born at Toronto, S. D., April 22, 1927. United in marriage to Joyce Nordquist Feb. 5, 1950. Joyce Nordquist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Nordquist, was born at Toronto, S. D. March 14, 1930. To their union was born a son Michael A. Jan. 8, 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Moore reside on a farm near Toronto, S. D.

CATHERYN J. MOORE

* * * * *

Catheryn J. Moore, daughter of Alice L. and Raymond A. Moore, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 1, 1928. United in marriage to Robert J. King, March 6, 1949. Robert J. King, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse King, was born at Toronto, S. D., Oct. 2, 1925. To their union were born four children. Cynthia, April, 1950; Dianna Rae, Apr. 2, 1951; Jerome R., April 3, 1953 and David W., Jan. 9, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. King are farmers and reside at Toronto, S. D.

FLORENCE IDELLA NELSON

* * * *

Florence Idella Nelson, daughter of Nicholas H. and Jane Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., April 22, 1908. United in marriage to Emil Dobash, May 12, 1934. Emil Dobash, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Dobash, was born at Tyndall, S. D., Nov. 5, 1901. To their union was born a daughter Karen Rae, July 6, 1941. Florence Nelson after completing High School entered nurses training at Sioux Valley Hospital and graduated in 1930; following the nursing profession until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Dobash reside at Sioux City, Ia., where they are in business.

BLANCHE L. NELSON

* * * *

Blanche L. Nelson, daughter of Nicholas and Jane Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., June 11, 1911, united in marriage to Julius Granner, Feb. 15, 1932. Julius Granner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Severt Granner, was born at Brandt, S. D., March 7, 1898. To their union were born Lois Ann, Jan. 9, 1932; Gerald W., March 22, 1937 and Karla Jean, October 6, 1954. Mr. Granner was employed by the Remington

Arms Company during the Second World War, and received a citation from the U. S. Government in recognition for his work on an atomic bomb project. The Granners reside at Woodburn, Oregon.

LOIS ANN GRANNER

* * * * *

Lois Ann Granner, daughter of Blanche L. and Julius Granner, was born at Toronto, S. D., Jan. 9, 1932. United in marriage to John C. Hugill, Nov. 3, 1951. John C. Hugill, son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hugill, was born February 23, 1925 at Cascade Locks, Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Hugill reside at Forest Grove, Oregon, where he is in educational work.

ROY E. NELSON

* * * *

Roy E. Nelson, son of Nicholas H. and Jane Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Nov. 5, 1915. United in marriage to Dagmer Austin, July 18, 1938. Dagmar Austin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Austin, was born at Colton, S. D., Sept. 21, 1914. To their union were born Zandra K., Aug. 28, 1939, and Carol Jane, Dec. 22, 1948. Roy E. Nelson served with the Navy in the South Pacific. Their home is at Sioux City. Iowa.

THE PASSING OF PARENTS

Nicholas H. Nelson died November 26, 1939 at the age of eighty years. Jane Jerde-Nelson died November 18, 1954 at the age of 77 years. Their bodies lie at rest in their family lot in the Toronto Cemetery, beside that of their daughter Ina R. who died August 4, 1910.

MARY CHRISTIANA NELSON

* * *

Mary Christiana Nelson, daughter of Oliver and Ingebor Nelson, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, April 24, 1864. United in marriage to William Elliott, June 10, 1885. William Elliott was born at Elgin, Illinois, June 25, 1857. To their union were born William H., Feb. 20, 1887; Edward M., July 18, 1889; Harry L., September 26, 1891; Mabel I., July 20, 1896 and George F., April 26, 1900. The family resided at their home north of Plainview until the death of the parents, Mary C. Nelson - Elliott, Feb. 18, 1902, and William Elliott, Aug. 24, 1917. Their bodies lie at rest in Greenwood Cemetery, Plainview, Minnesota.

WILLIAM H. ELLIOTT

* * * *

William H. Elliott, son of Mary C. and William Elliott, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, Feb. 20, 1887; united in marriage to Florence Nelson, July 28, 1919. Florence Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Nelson, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, June 26, 1896. To their union was born a daughter, Marion M., July 12, 1920. William H. Elliott enlisted in the U. S. Army March 18, 1918, served in France with the Coast Guard Artillery in World War I until April, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott resided in St. Paul until his death July 29, 1954. His body lies at rest in the National Cemetery, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

MARION M. ELLIOTT

* * * * *

Marion M. Elliott, daughter of William H. and Florence Elliott was born at St. Paul, Minnesota,

July 12, 1920. United in marriage to Lloyd C. Picht, Dec. 6, 1940. Lloyd C. Picht, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Picht was born at St. Paul, Minn., Oct. 29, 1914. To their union were born William I., June 20, 1942 and Susan, May 28, 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Picht reside at St. Paul, Minnesota.

EDWARD M. ELLIOTT

* * * *

Edward M. Elliott, son of Mary C. and William Elliott, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, July 18, 1889. United in marriage to Emma Heil, May 8, 1908. Emma Heil, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Heil was born at Theilman, Minnesota, Aug. 24, 1889. To their union was born a son, George E., March 18, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott reside at St. Paul, Minn.

GEORGE ELLIOTT

* * * * *

George E. Elliott, son of Edward M. and Emma Elliott, was born at St. Paul, Minn., March 18, 1910. United in marriage to Catherine Reilley, July 2, 1933. Catherine Reilly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Reilley, was born at St. Paul, Minnesota, Jan. 12, 1917. To their union were born Mary I., July 30, 1935; Edward C., May 31, 1937 and Robert B., Jan. 25, 1942. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott reside in St. Paul, Minn.

HARRY L. ELLIOTT

* * * *

Harry L. Elliott, son of Mary C. and William Elliott was born at Plainview, Minn., Sept. 26, 1891. United in marriage to Jennie I. Reich, April 23, 1918. Jennie I. Reich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Reich was born at Plainview, Minn., Dec. 9, 1898.

To their union were born, Ester M., Jan. 11, 1924 and Helen J., Jan. 4, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott reside at St. Paul, Minnesota.

ESTER M. ELLIOTT

* * * * *

Ester M. Elliott, daughter of Harry L. and Jennie I. Elliott was born at St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 11, 1924. United in marriage to Charles McKee, Sept. 5, 1942. Charles McKee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McKee was born at St. Paul, Minn., July 18, 1936. To their union were born Charlene, July 8, 1946; Donna, Aug. 6, 1947; Charles, Aug. 3, 1949; Thomas, Sept. 4, 1950 and Jo Ann, Jan. 18, 1953. Mr. and Mrs. McKee resided at St. Paul, Minn., following his discharge from the U. S. Navy.

HELEN J. ELLIOTT

* * * * *

Helen J. Elliott, daughter of Harry L. and Jennie Elliott was born at St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 27, 1935. United in marriage to James R. Ogura, Sept. 10, 1955. James R. Ogura, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Ogura was born at Duluth, Minn., Sept. 7, 1931. It is noted that Helen Elliott has the same birthdate as her great grandfather, Oliver Nelson who was born in Norway, Jan. 27, 1835, except that it is 100 years later. Mr. and Mrs. Ogura reside at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

MABEL I. ELLIOTT

* * * *

Mabel I. Elliott, daughter of Mary C. and William Elliott was born at Plainview, Minn., July 20, 1896. United in marriage to William Heil, Feb. 24, 1915. William Heil, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Heil

was born at Thielman, Minn., May 20, 1888. To their union was born a son, Russell, Jan. 12, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Heil resided in St. Paul until his death Sept. 21, 1953 at the age of 65 years. His body lies at rest in the Memorial Cemetery, Minneapolis, Minn. Mrs. Heil resides at St. Paul, Minnesota.

RUSSELL HEIL

* * * * *

Russell Heil, son of Mabel I. and William Heil was born at St. Paul, Minn., Jan 12, 1919. United in marriage to Myrtle M. McKee Feb. 24, 1945. Myrtle M. KcKee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McKee was born at St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 4, 1925. To their union were born Bonnie L., Feb. 23, 1946; James R., Nov. 15, 1948; Susan K., Feb. 22, 1949; William, Nov. 7, 1951 and Julia A., Oct. 11, 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Heil reside at White Bear Lake, Minn.

GEORGE F. ELLIOTT

* * * *

George F. Elliott, son of Mary C. and William Elliott was born at Plainview, Minn., April 26, 1900. Enlisted in the U. S. Army, Nov. 16, 1916. He was stationed at Hawaiian Island base for some time, and later transferred to Fort Sill, Okla. He resided in Texas until his death Sept. 8, 1928. His body lies at rest in the family lot, Greenwood Cemetery, Plainview, Minnesota.

ANTON CHRISTIAN NELSON

* * *

Anton Christian Nelson, son of Oliver and Ingebor Nelson was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, March 28, 1866, and grew to manhood on his father's homestead.

On reaching school age, he attended the district school No. 39, known as the Rich District, located on the northeast corner of his father's farm, later attending Winona Business College. On completion of his college course, he secured employment with Koenig Brothers Department Store at Plainview, continuing in this position for some time. Following his resignation from the Koenig Store, he spent several years on a cattle ranch in Montana. Returning to Plainview, he was united in marriage to Matilda Mary Nicolay, November 19, 1888.

Matilda Mary Nicolay was born in Germany, December 12, 1864, the daughter of August and Anna Nicolay. At the age of four she came to America with her parents, settling at Plainview, and continued her residence there. On completing her schooling, she became a dressmaker, following this work until her marriage. Following their marriage, they moved to the Clark farm two miles west of Plainview. For the following nineteen years they continued farming, a portion of the time on his father's farm three miles north of Plainview. In 1907, he disposed of his farm equipment and moved his family to Plainview. Shortly after moving to Plainview, he entered the well drilling business, which he successfully followed for many years, but was forced to retire due to poor health. To this union were born four children, one son and three daughters, Grace Althea, Sept. 18, 1889; Anna Isabel, Feb. 26, 1896; Doris Leone, July 23, 1903 and Glen Edwin, Sept. 8, 1906. Anton Nelson was a life long resident of Plainview and a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge.

DEATH OF PARENTS

Matilda M. Nicolay Nelson died Aug. 23, 1946, at the age of eighty-one years. Anton C. Nelson died April 22, 1941 at the age of seventy-five years. Their bodies lie at rest in the family lot in Greenwood Cemetery, at Plainview, Minnesota.

GRACE ALTHEA NELSON

* * * *

Grace Althea Nelson, daughter of Anton C. and Matilda Nelson was born on a farm near Plainview, Minn., Sept. 18, 1889. United in marriage to Porter McIntosh, Feb. 3, 1917. Porter McIntosh, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. McIntosh was born at Eau Claire, Wis., May 25, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh resided at Plainview until he secured employment with the Northwestern Railroad as fireman on a run out of Waseca. Through progressive promotion he was advanced to a locomotive engineer, which position he held until his retirement. Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh reside at Waseca, Minnesota.

ANNA ISABEL NELSON

* * * *

Anna Isabel Nelson, daughter of Anton C. and Matilda Nelson was born on a farm near Plainview, Feb. 26, 1896. Received her primary education in the Plainview schools (Public) completing her education in the Winona Business College. She was employed in the office of the Emporium Store in St. Paul for a number of years. United in marriage to Daniel Taft, Feb. 10, 1923. Daniel Taft, son of Bertram G. Taft, was born at New Richland, Wis., Nov. 24, 1886. To their union was born a daughter, Dorothy M., June 11, 1924. Daniel Taft died Jan. 22,

1941 at the age of fifty-five years. Anna I. Nelson - Taft was united in marriage to Maurice L. Brown Nov. 30, 1929 at St. Paul. To their union was born a son, Donald J. Brown, Sept. 15, 1930. Anna I. Nelson Brown resides at Plainview, Minnesota.

DOROTHY M. TAFT

* * * * *

Dorothy M. Taft, daughter of Anna I. and Daniel Taft, was born June 11, 1924. She was united in marriage to Leonard Wiza, Nov. 19, 1949. Leonard Wiza, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Wiza, was born at Milwaukee, Wis., June 15, 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Wiza reside at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

DONALD JAMES BROWN

* * * * *

Donald J. Brown, son of Anna I. and Maurice J. Brown, was born at Plainview, Minn., Sept. 15, 1930. United in marriage to Noelann Nelson Oct. 6, 1956. Noelann Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albin G. Nelson, was born at Mahnomen, Minn., Aug. 23, 1936. Donald Nelson enlisted in the U. S. Army Jan 11, 1949 and served in the Korean Campaign. On his discharge from the army he attended Hamline University. To their union was born a son, Donald, January 25, 1958. Mr. and Mrs. Brown reside at St. Paul, Minnesota.

DORIS LEONE NELSON

* * * *

Doris Leone Nelson, daughter of Anton C. and Matilda Nelson was born on a farm near Plainview, Minn., July 23, 1903. Attended Plainview High School and graduated in 1922. Following her graduation she attended Winona Teachers College, grad-

uating in 1923, after which she taught school until her marriage to Orrin Shelstad, Oct. 9, 1925. Orrin Shelstad, son of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Shelstad was born on a farm in Goodhue County, Minn., July 15, 1903. To their union were born Shirley J., Aug. 17, 1926, and Gweneth M., Oct. 28, 1927. Mr. and Mrs. Shelstad are farmers and reside at Zumbrota, Minnesota.

SHIRLEY JEAN SHELSTAD

* * * * *

Shirley Jean Shelstad, daughter of Doris L. and Orrin Shelstad was born on a farm near Zumbrota, Minn., Aug. 17, 1926. United in marriage to Gordon Juveli, Aug. 7, 1945. Later married to Ernest Nygren, April 13, 1953. Ernest Nygren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Nygren, was born in Minneapolis, July 31, 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Nygren reside at North Hopkins, Minnesota.

GWENETH SHELSTAD

* * * * *

Gweneth Shelstad, daughter of Doris L. and Orrin Shelstad was born on a farm near Zumbrota, Minn., Oct. 28, 1927. United in marriage to Ralph A. Seaman, Sept. 6, 1947. Ralph Seaman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Seaman was born April 10, 1926. To their union was born Jacalyn M., May 31, 1948. Gweneth Shelstad Seaman was united in marriage to William R. Lauer April 24, 1952. William Lauer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lauer was born at Clemens, Minn., Feb. 25, 1926. Mr. and Mrs. Lauer reside at Minneapolis where Mr. Lauer is a technician for the Western Union.

GLEN EDWIN NELSON

* * * *

Glen Edwin Nelson, son of Anton C. and Matilda Nelson was born on a farm near Plainview, Minn., Sept. 8, 1905. He associated himself with his father at an early age in well drilling, which was continued for several years. On retirement of his father in 1941, he entered the armed service and was stationed for some time at Clairburn, La. Returning from the armed service, he made his home at Plainview, Minnesota.

JOHN HENRY NELSON

* * *

John H. Nelson, son of Oliver and Mary Ann Nelson was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., Sept. 17, 1871. United in marriage to Clara Sater, October 31, 1892. Clara Sater was born in Norway, Mar. 9, 1873. To their union were born Oscar P., Sept. 15, 1893, and Mabel, May 22, 1895. Mabel died April 16, 1912 at the age of seventeen years. Clara, wife and mother, died July 22, 1897, at the age of twenty-four years. Mother and daughter lie at rest in the Toronto, South Dakota Cemetery.

John H. Nelson was united in marriage to Inge Sather, Feb. 6, 1899. Inge Sather, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Soren Sather, was born at Chippewa Falls, Wis., June 4, 1875. To their union were born Charles, Dec. 13, 1899, and Clarie, Aug. 17, 1902.

John H. Nelson at the age of nineteen years secured a position with a jeweler at Minneiska as apprentice watchmaker. In 1891 he established a jewelry and music store at Toronto, S. D., which he operated until 1899, when he transferred his busi-

ness activities to Colorado Springs, Colo., where he engaged in the jewelry business. He later became interested in gold and silver mining in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico, developing mining property. On returning from Mexico he conducted a music store at Watertown Again he established his home at Toronto, where he resided until his death, April 27, 1914. His body lies at rest with that of his family in the Toronto Cemetery.

OSCAR P. NELSON

* * * *

Oscar P. Nelson, son of John H. and Clara Nelson was born at Toronto, S. D., Sept. 15, 1893. United in marriage to Una Nelson in 1920. Una Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burt Nelson was born at Urange Pass, Texas, April 16, 1895. To their union was born a daughter, Norma, Aug. 6, 1925. Oscar P. Nelson was united in marriage to Hazel Reynolds Oct. 6, 1928. Hazel Reynolds was born at Aberdeen, S. D., Jan. 28. 1915. Oscar Nelson enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1917 for service in World War I and was assigned to the Field Artillery Band stationed at Corpus Christi, Texas. Following his overseas duty he operated a jewelry store at Toronto, S. D. Later he conducted a jewelry and music store at Everett, Wash. His death occurred Oct. 11, 1951 at the age of fifty-eight years. His body lies at rest in Cypress Cemetery where Masonic graveside services were held.

CHARLES SELMER NELSON

* * * *

Charles S. Nelson, son of John H. and Inge Nelson was born at Colorado City, Colo., Dec. 13, 1899. United in marriage to Ethel Starkey, June

16, 1922. Ethel Starkey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Knute S. Starkey, was born at Lane, S. D., July 27, 1898. To their union were born Patricia, Nov. 8, 1924, and Shirley, Aug. 9, 1930. Charles S. enlisted in the U. S. Army at the outbreak of World War I, was assigned to Battery C, Field Artillery. Previous to his overseas service he was stationed at Shelby, Miss. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Missoula, Mont.

SHIRLEY NELSON

* * * * *

Shirley Nelson, daughter of Charles S. and Ethel Nelson was born Aug. 9, 1930, at Spokane, Wash. United in marriage to Kenneth Owens, Feb. 4, 1950. Kenneth Owens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Felmer Owens, was born in Geneva, Ala., Aug. 11, 1929. To their union was born a son, Richard A., Oct. 20, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Owens reside at Spokane, Washington.

CLARIE NELSON

* * * *

Clarie Nelson, daughter of John H. and Inge Nelson was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 17, 1902. United in marriage to Olin Kaupanger, Oct. 1, 1923. Olin Kaupanger was born at Winsor, Wis., Dec. 20, 1897. To their union were born Katherine, Aug. 22, 1924, and Beatrice, Feb. 22, 1932. Mr. and Mrs. Kaupanger reside at Mound, Minnesota.

KATHERINE KAUPANGER

* * * * *

Katherine Kaupanger, daughter of Clarie and Olin Kaupanger, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 22, 1924. United in marriage to Clement Svilow, May 25, 1949. Clement Svilow, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Svilow was born at Chicago, Ill, Nov. 16,

1909. To their union was born a daughter, Anne Clarie, Aug. 23, 1950. Mr. and Mrs. Svilow reside at Yakima, Washington.

BEATRICE KAUPANGER

* * * * *

Beatrice Kaupanger daughter of Clarie and Olin Kaupanger, was born at Minneapolis, Feb. 22, 1930. United in marriage to John H. Wilson, June 2, 1952. John Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wilson, was born at Independence, Missouri, July 21, 1925. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson reside at Minneapolis, Minn.

ALBERT NELSON

* * *

Albert Nelson, son of Oliver and Mary Ann Nelson was born on the homestead in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minn., Sept. 24, 1872. Was united in marriage to Bertha Fossom April 4, 1895. Bertha Fossom was born at Trondheim, Norway, Feb. 22, 1873. To their union were born Oliver A., Feb. 9, 1896; Floyd W., April 11, 1897; Fern, Nov. 11, 1898; Richard W., Dec. 3, 1900; Clifford D., Aug. 7, 1907 and Alton B., Mar. 30, 1910. Albert Nelson at the age of twenty left the farm and located at Toronto, S. D., where he studied watchmaking. In 1893 he established a jewelry store at White, S. D., which he conducted for a time before moving to Toronto, where he has conducted a jewelry store for the past sixty-two years. Now in his 85th year, he can be found at his bench nearly every day repairing watches, for the third and fourth generation of his customers. Bertha Fossom Nelson came to America with her grandparents in 1879, first going to Rice Lake, Wis., where she spent her childhood, later moving to Hendricks, Minn. She died

Sept. 3, 1941 at the age of sixty-eight years. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in Toronto, S. D., Cemetery.

OLIVER ANSEL NELSON

* * * *

Oliver A. Nelson, son of Albert and Bertha Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Feb. 9, 1896. United in marriage to Marian M. Bowen, Aug. 29, 1930. Marian Bowen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Bowen was born at Sioux Falls, S. D., Oct. 11, 1896. Joining the National Guard in 1916, he saw service in the Mexican Expedition, as a member of the 1st S. D. Cavalry. At the close of the Mexican campaign he saw service with the 147th in France. He later became a member of the 329 M. G. Co., Sandstorm Division, A. E. F. and served overseas throughout World War I. Was mustered out in 1919 with rank of Pfc. Completing her high school in Sioux Falls, Marian Bowen received advanced college degrees at Cedar Falls, Iowa and Spearfish, S. D. They reside at Sioux Falls, S. D.

FLOYD WENDELL NELSON

* * * *

Floyd W. Nelson, son of Albert and Bertha Nelson was born at White, S. D., April 11, 1897 United in marriage to Grace Walker, July 17, 1920. Grace Walker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Walker was born at Kankakee, Illinois, July 12, 1901. To their union were born Margaret F., September 27, 1921 and Phyllis I., October 11, 1924. Floyd W. Nelson held a position as engineer at the Municipal Power Plant at Sioux Falls, while Mrs. Nelson holds a position as Society Editor with the Sioux Falls Daily Argus Leader. She claims the distinc-

tion of being the daughter of the second white girl born in Sioux Falls, her mother being the daughter of Mathias and Martha Matson who settled in Sioux Falls in 1870.

MARGARET FERN NELSON

* * * * *

Margaret F. Nelson, daughter of Floyd W. and Grace Nelson was born at Sioux Falls, S. D., Sept. 27, 1921. United in marriage to Merle D. Harsh, Sept. 6, 1941. Merle D. Harsh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Harsh, was born at Salem, S. D., Nov. 16, 1919. To their union were born Michael Dean, May 14, 1944; Mory Dale, July 17, 1949 and Martha Floyd, Feb. 10, 1957.

Merle Harsh enlisted in the U. S. Navy and served on the carrier Bunker Hill as aviation mechanic and participated against the Kamikaze attack on the Bunker Hill in the South Pacific campaign on May 11, 1945, which resulted in the death of 373 and the wounding of 262 of her crew. After 42 months of service, he was dismissed as mechanic first class and decorated with thirteen battle stars. Mr. and Mrs. Harsh reside at Sioux Falls, S. D.

PHYLLIS I. NELSON

* * * * *

Phyllis I. Nelson, daughter of Floyd W. and Grace Nelson was born at Sioux Falls, S. D., on October 11, 1924. United in marriage to Robert Jurgenson, Oct. 4, 1945. Robert Jurgenson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Jurgenson was born at Hartford, S. D., Feb. 28, 1927. To their union were born Martha J., March 31, 1947; Linda L., July 13, 1948 and Rex, Jan. 5, 1950. Mr. and Mrs. Jurgenson resided at Oma-

ha, Nebraska until her death April 14, 1957, at the age of 32 years. Her body lies at rest in Hills of Rest Memorial Park, Sioux Falls, S. D.

FERN MAGDALENE NELSON

* * * *

Fern M. Nelson, daughter of Albert and Bertha Nelson was born in Toronto, S. D. Nov. 11, 1898. On completing high school she entered Lutheran Hospital at Watertown where she received nurses training, and has since followed that profession. She was united in marriage to Harry B. Gordon, March 16, 1921. Harry B. Gordon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Gordon was born at Bemis, S. D., Sept. 7, 1896. To their union were born Shirley, Feb. 25, 1922; Jack, Jan. 10, 1926 and Alan, Sept. 7, 1931. Harry B. Gordon entered the armed forces of the United States April 26, 1917 for service in World War I, and served throughout the European campaign with the 34th division and was discharged from service Aug. 19, 1919 with the rank of Pfc. On March 3, 1942, Mr. Gordon again entered the armed services of the United States, this time for service in World War II with the rank of Captain, and served at Fort Dodge as Company Commander, promoted to major March 30, 1943, and transferred to Denver Aug. 5, 1944 and made commanding officer of the recruiting district. Mr. Gordon received his army discharge in 1945 with the rank of Lt. Colonel. He again resumed his residence in Watertown and his position with the U. S. Postal Department. He remained there until his death Nov. 28, 1955. His body lies at rest in Mount Hope Cemetery, Watertown, S. D.

SHIRLEY GORDON

* * * * *

Shirley Gordon, daughter of Fern M. and Harry Gordon was born in Watertown, S. D., Feb. 25, 1922. Following her high school graduation she entered nurses training at Barton Hospital, Watertown, from which she graduated in 1944 and of which she later became supervisor. Shirley Gordon was united in marriage to Lyle E. McNulty, July 10, 1944. Lyle E. McNulty was born at Watertown, S. D., Nov. 18, 1923. To their union were born Michael L., May 18, 1948; Stephen R., July 1, 1950; Sean E., Sept. 21, 1953; Klein R., Feb. 14, 1955 and Danial P., Feb. 16, 1957. Mr. McNulty entered the U. S. armed service in December, 1942 and served throughout the European Campaign in the Second World War. He was awarded a bronze and two silver stars. Discharged Dec., 1945 with the rank of Pfc. On completion of his schooling at the School of Mines, he was made electrical chief at the Milwaukee, Wisconsin Power Plant, where the family resides.

JACK GORDON

* * * * *

Jack Gordon, son of Fern M. and Harry Gordon was born at Watertown, S. D., Jan. 10, 1926. United in marriage to Virginia Mahawald, Nov. 11, 1950. Virginia Mahawald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Mahawald was born at Watertown, S. D. May 3, 1929. To their union were born Michael C., April 15, 1951 and Kathleen M., Aug. 15, 1952. Jack Gordon enlisted in the Air Corps Reserve in June, 1944, and entered active service July 18, 1945. Mr. Gordon attended South Dakota State College and the University. He is now operating a lumber yard at Watertown, S. D.

ALAN GORDON

* * * * *

Alan R. Gordon, son of Fern M. and Harry Gordon was born at Watertown, S. D., Sept. 7, 1931. United in marriage to Janet McActee, June 13, 1952. Janet McAtee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank McAtee was born at Rolla, N. D., June 13, 1934. To their union were born Kim R., July 9, 1953 and Richard Alan, Dec. 30, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon reside at Brookings, S. D., where he is attending State College.

RICHARD WEBSTER NELSON

* * * *

Richard Webster Nelson, son of Albert and Bertha Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Dec. 3, 1900. A graduate of Northern Illinois College he was given a degree in Optometry. He located in Chicago in 1927, devoting his time to watchmaking exclusively. Richard W. Nelson was united in marriage to Viola Kreger, June 26, 1928. Viola Kreger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kreger, was born at Clear Lake, S. D., Jan. 23, 1905. She attended college after her early education at Clear Lake. Following graduation she taught in the public schools in South Dakota and Illinois. To their union were born twin girls, Karen Suzanne and Sharon Anne, Nov. 21, 1943. Karen Suzanne died Nov. 22 and Sharon Anne died Nov. 23, 1943. A son, Lynn Richard, was born on January 24, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Mt. Prospect, Illinois.

CLIFFORD DELMAR NELSON

* * * *

Clifford Delmar Nelson, son of Albert and Bertha Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 7, 1906.

United in marriage to Myrtle Stensland, June 6, 1930. Myrtle Stensland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Iver Stensland was born at Sioux Falls, S. D., Jan. 10, 1911. Clifford D. Nelson was graduated from the Toronto High School and South Dakota State College. While a resident of Sioux Falls in 1927, he joined the 147th Field Artillery Regiment and was inducted into the federal service with that organization in November, 1940. While on active duty with the regiment at Fort Ord, California, he was ordered to the field artillery school at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, graduating shortly following the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Upon rejoining his regiment in Australia, he saw duty with them at Milne Bay, New Guinea and Woodlark Island. His regiment, the 147th F. A. B., was then merged with the 158th Infantry R. C. T. forming a task force that participated in combat action against the Japanese at Finschaven, New Guinea. Stubborn resistance was encountered at Sarmi, Dutch New Guinea in capturing a strong Japanese supply base and air strip. On completion of the Noemfoor Island operation, the task force engaged the Japanese in the Lingayen Gulf and landed at Alacan on the Philippine Islands, Jan. 11, 1945. Moving overland to Southern Luzon, Clifford Nelson, with his division participated in the capture of Batangas. On completion of the Batanga Campaign, the division was transported by water to the Port of Legaspi, which was neutralized and where they were in rest camp until the close of the war.

On October 1, 1945, the 147th F. A. was transported to Japan, where it was assigned to police duty at Utsunomyia, a district north of Tokyo. Af-

ter completing the police assignment the regiment returned to the United States. Thus ended the military activities of Clifford D. Nelson, who retired from the army with the rank of major after four years of active service in the South Pacific in which he participated in many major battles. For this service he was awarded a Bronze Star. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Hayward, California.

ALTON B. NELSON

* * * *

Alton B. Nelson, son of Albert and Bertha Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 30, 1910. United in marriage to Sophia Anderson, June 23, 1932. Sophia Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anton S. Anderson, was born at Brandt, S. D., June 3, 1908. To their union were born Alton B., Jan. 21, 1933; David O., Aug. 8, 1934; Mary L., June 4, 1935 and Nancy J., Dec. 23, 1937. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside in Toronto.

ALTON B. NELSON JR.

* * * * *

Alton B. Nelson, son of Alton B. and Sophia Nelson was born at Toronto, S. D., Jan. 21, 1933. United in marriage to Beverly Thompson, July 27, 1951. Beverly Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Thompson, was born at Brandt, S. D., Mar. 4, 1935. To their union were born Michael, Nov. 9, 1952 and Valerie, Nov. 23. 1954. Alton B. Nelson Jr. was attached to the Air Refueling Squadron, Columbus, Ohio. The family resides in Sioux Falls.

DAVID O. NELSON

* * * * *

David O. Nelson, son of Alton B. and Sophia Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 8, 1934. United in marriage to Julene Ann Killen, March 31,

1956. Julene Ann Killen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold L. Killen, was born at Eau Claire, Wis., Jan. 23. 1934. The family resides at Monticello, Minn., where Mrs. Nelson has a teaching engagement. David O. Nelson recently completed army service in Alaska and is now attending Teachers College at St. Cloud, Minn.

NANCY J. NELSON

* * * * *

Nancy J. Nelson, daughter of Alton B. and Sophia Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Dec. 23, 1937. United in marriage to Homer L. Mowles, Dec. 24, 1956. Homer L. Mowles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest F. Mowles, was born at Alex, Okla., May 30, 1937. To their union was born Ernest L., Oct. 9, 1957. Mr. and Mrs. Mowles reside at Pensacola, Fla.

OTIS CORNELIUS NELSON

* * *

Otis Cornelius Nelson, son of Oliver and Mary Ann Nelson, was born on the family homestead in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, Aug. 11, 1875. In March of 1901 with many others from that vicinity, he migrated in railway cars containing livestock and farm equipment to Lake De May, District of Alberta, Canada, to homestead free land recently opened to settlement. The nearest railroad point to this land was Wetaskawin, thirty miles away. All farm equipment, household goods and belongings were transported by wagon to their new home over a trail that wound its way southward, skirting clumps of timber, through bogs caused by spring rains, fording streams and rivers and reaching their destination after enduring untold hardships.

The land selected by Otis Nelson for his homestead was to a large extent covered with small poplar trees and brush. After erecting a shelter for himself and team of horses, his everyday work was to clear the land for crops. It was good land and when put into crops produced as much as one hundred bushels of oats and forty bushels of wheat per acre. The homesteader was getting twenty-five cents for oats and fifty-five cents for his wheat. The long haul to market ended in 1905 with the building of the Canadian Pacific Railroad into the district, and established the village of Camrose seven miles to the southwest. The new village provided good markets for farm products. The establishment of a creamery gave a boost to the dairy farmer throughout the district. For the first time there was prosperity in the new land.

The prosperity enjoyed by the farmer and the businesman alike was, however, not to last. The outbreak of World War I in 1914 caused many young men on the farm to enter the armed forces of the nation for military service overseas. This caused the abandonment of many productive farms throughout the province. Market on farm products remained high throughout the war period and for a short time thereafter. The service men returning to the farm, not only renewed their farming activities, but increased the cultivated acreage to take advantage of high prices on farm products. The increased farm acreage resulted in an over production of everything the farmers had to sell.

The markets became glutted forcing the prices down to an all time low of eight cents per bushel for oats and fifteen cents for wheat. Many farmers were forced to abandon their farms as these condi-

tions brought on hard times which lasted to some extent until World War II, which came unexpectedly in 1940. Again young men and veterans of the former war were called into military service. Returns from the farm improved as war activities increased. A very unusual situation was created at harvest time in 1939 when a heavy blanket of snow covered the harvested and unharvested fields of grain. The shocked grain was not threshed until May the following year.

What caused further loss to crops was the moving into the snow covered shocks of millions of meadow mice that destroyed half of the grain. Farm conditions were greatly improved in the post-war period, as the market value of oats advanced to sixty-five cents and wheat $1.06 per bushel. The large amount of oil discovered in that district has created increased value of farm land.

Otis C. Nelson was united in marriage to Christine Digre, Sept. 27, 1905. Christine Digre, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peder Digre was born at Hendricks, Minnesota, Jan. 27, 1878. To their union were born Curtis, Aug. 25, 1906; Annie, July 4, 1908; Myrtle, March 22, 1911; Gordon, April 22, 1916 and Maxwell, Feb. 23, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson resided on their farm near Camrose, Alta., until the death of wife and mother, Christine Digre - Nelson, June 14, 1948, at the age of seventy years. Her body lies at rest in Camrose Cemetery. Annie died May 7, 1930, at the age of twenty-one years. Her body lies at rest in Lake De May Cemetery. Otis C. Nelson resides at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

CURTIS NELSON

* * * *

Curtis Nelson, son of Otis C. and Christine Nel-

son was born at Hendricks, Minn., Aug. 25, 1906. United in marriage to Mona Butterfield, Dec. 31, 1935. Mona Butterfield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Butterfield, was born at Calgary, Alta., Dec. 31, 1914. To their union were born Alice Shirley, Feb. 8, 1937 and Harold, Jan. 26, 1938. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Camrose, Alta.

ALICE SHIRLEY NELSON

* * * * *

Alice Shirley Nelson, daughter of Curtis and Mona Nelson, was born at Camrose, Alta., Feb. 8, 1937. United in marriage to Robert T. Cunningham, Nov. 8, 1957. Robert T. Cunningham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cunningham, was born at Camrose, Alta., May 3, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham are farmers and reside at Kelsey, Alta.

GORDON NELSON

* * * *

Gordon Nelson, son of Otis C. and Christine Nelson, was born at Camrose, Alta., April 22, 1916. He resides at Camrose, Alta.

MAXWELL NELSON

* * * *

Maxwell Nelson, son of Otis C. and Christine Nelson, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Feb. 23, 1919. He entered the armed forces of the Canadian government in December of 1941, became a Rocky Mountain Ranger and saw service with the Rangers in Kiska, Alaska and later on the western front in Europe. He resides at Camrose, Alta.

MYRTLE NELSON

* * * *

Myrtle Nelson, daughter of Otis C. and Chris-

tine Nelson, was born at Camrose, Alta., Canada, March 22, 1911. United in marriage to Finvold Aspeness, Feb. 10, 1953. Finvold Aspeness, son of Albert Aspeness, was born at Ladysmith, Wis., July 26, 1905. To their union was born a son, Conrad A., Sept. 7, 1955. Also to them by adoption, Raymond O. Nelson, born at Camrose, Alta., November 20, 1934. Mr. and Mrs. Aspeness are farmers and reside at Ryley, Alta.

JOSEPH SOPHORNIUS NELSON

* * *

Joseph S. Nelson, son of Oliver and Mary Ann Nelson, was born on the family homestead in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, Feb. 3, 1877, attended district school No. 39 to the following teachers: John Bates, Lillie Wells, Mary Burnham, Nancy Needham, Emma Gaylord, Sybil Champine and Fred Wolf. He moved with his parents to Plainview in 1893. Together with his father they organized the Nelson Furniture Co., to deal in furniture and conduct an undertaking business in Plainview.

Continuing this business until May of 1905, he moved to Sioux Falls, S. D., and there purchased the undertaking establishment of George Burnside, then mayor of Sioux Falls. The business was organized as the Grove - Nelson Co., in partnership with Ila A. Grove. This was continued for some time then consolidated with a like business of L. D. Miller, forming the Miller - Nelson Co., which continued until he sold his interest to his partner, L. D. Miller in 1912.

Following the sale of his interest he became a contractor and built many residences in the city.

In April, 1926, he was elected to the position of Commissioner for the city of Sioux Falls, which position he held for a period of twenty years. In addition to his duties as manager of the water and light departments, he was intensely interested in the recreational welfare of the young people of the city, and through his efforts many useful playgrounds were established which included Riverside, Meldrum, Water Works and Tower Parks. Also included was Drake Springs Swimming Pool built in 1934 from water works funds. This has provided enjoyment and clean recreation to untold numbers for succeeding years.

The Sunken Garden with its goldfish basin and terraced borders containing more than six thousand blooming and foliage plants is one of the beauty spots of the city. Nelson Park, so named by the Park Department in recognition of his work in behalf of the youth of the city was also one of his projects. Nelson Park comprises an area of more than twenty acres and embraces Drake Springs pool and Sunken Garden. This is also a recreational area devoted to baseball and other sports. Since retiring from public life, he has traveled extensively with his family over North America, having visited all the states in the Union, including Alaska, all provinces of Canada, and a large portion of Mexico. He has been a Methodist since 1893 and also a Mason and Odd Fellow.

Joseph S. Nelson was united in marriage to Grace M. Browett, Sept. 22, 1897. Grace M. Browett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Browett, was born in Elgin, Minnesota, Feb. 28, 1880. Mr. Browett, a pioneer of that community was born at Ingersol, Ontario, Canada, June 1, 1854, migrated to Elgin,

Minn., in 1856, where he resided until his death May 19, 1936, at the age of 82 years.

To their union were born Grace, Sept. 5, 1899; Charles O., May 10, 1901; Oliver, Mar. 20, 1915 and Nels, July 6, 1916. Grace, Oliver and Nels died shortly following birth. Grace Browett - Nelson died Jan. 4, 1934 at the age of 53 years. Her body with those of her children lies at rest in Greenwood Cemetery, Plainview, Minnesota, where perpetual care of their resting place has been provided.

Joseph S. Nelson was united in marriage to Mabel C. Huntoon, July 2, 1936. Mabel C. Huntoon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Huntoon was born at Elgin, Minn., Feb. 15, 1888. Following graduation from Elgin High School, she attended Carleton College, graduating in 1915. She holds an M. A. degree from Columbia University. Following a teaching profession, she became dean of girls at the Billings High School, which position she held until her resignation in 1936. Otis Huntoon was born at West Charleston, Vermont, Aug. 18, 1835, migrated to Minnesota in 1861 and settled on a farm near Elgin, Minnesota where he resided until his death in 1917 at the age of 82 years.

CHARLES OLIVER NELSON

* * * *

Charles Oliver Nelson, son of Joseph S. and Grace M. Nelson was born at Plainview, Minnesota, May 10, 1901. United in marriage to Elsie M. Welch, Aug. 12, 1925. Elsie M. Welch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Welch was born at Sioux Falls, Aug. 12, 1908. To their union was born a daughter, Marjorie I., July 19, 1934. By mutual agreement there was a separation between Charles O. and Elsie M. Nelson after which Charles O. Nelson was united

in marriage to Mamie Baker - Clancey, July 10, 1946. Mamie B. Clancy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baker, was born at Wayne, Nebr., Oct. 17, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside in Sioux Falls.

MARJORIE IRENE NELSON

* * * * *

Marjorie I. Nelson, daughter of Charles O. and Elsie M. Nelson, was born at Sioux Falls, S. D., July 19, 1934. United in marriage to Norman Traub, Sept. 10, 1950. Norman Traub, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Traub, was born at Sioux Falls, S. D., March 19, 1929. To their union were born David A., April 27, 1952 and died April 27, 1952; Douglas M., Jan. 27, 1954 and James F., Feb. 5, 1957. Mr. and Mrs. Traub reside at Sioux Falls, S. D.

ALFRED CHRISTIAN NELSON

* * *

Alfred Christian Nelson, son of Oliver and Mary Ann Nelson, was born on the family homestead in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, Jan. 16, 1879. Family records show that he was christened Alfred at birth but was known as Fred throughout his life. As a boy he attended district school No. 39, located on the northeast corner of the homestead. In order to prepare himself for higher education he attended high school at Plainview, a distance of three miles, riding horseback to and from school each day.

Horseback riding was a pleasure in pleasant weather. Minnesota at times however, produced winter storms of blizzard proportions, with subzero weather. A great deal of hardship was experienced by him in getting this portion of his education. His vacation was spent on the farm, helping

with farm work. Moving with his parents to Plainview in 1893, he continued his studies at the high school, graduating in 1898.

Having chosen the ministry as his life's work he entered Hamline University in 1900, registering for a classical course. He was made a member of the Beta Kappa fraternity and the Alpha Chapter. In college sports, he played on both baseball and football teams, and served as captain of the track team in his senior year. For several years he held the college record for hammer throws. He graduated in June, 1904 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Joining the Minnesota conference of the Methodist Church in 1903, he served as pastor of churches at Kenyon and Richland, while continuing his studies.

To further prepare himself for the ministry, Alfred C. Nelson entered Boston University in the fall of 1904 for a course in theology. In connection with his college work he was appointed pastor in 1905 and was assigned to East Kingston Methodist Church where he devoted week ends to church work. In the spring of 1906 he was transferred to South Walpole Church, where he resided with his wife but continued with his studies until graduation in 1907.

Alfred C. Nelson was united in marriage to Annie Marie Zimmerman Aug. 1, 1905. Annie M. Zimmerman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Zimmerman was born at Welcome, Minnesota, Nov. 29, 1874. Following graduation from Valley Springs High School, she entered Hamline University, graduating therefrom in 1902. Then she served as principal of Lanesburo High School. To their union were born Philip R., April 19, 1908 and Joy M., April 7,

1914. Rev. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Los Altos, California.

PHILIP ROVANG NELSON

* * * *

Philip R. Nelson, son of Alfred C. and Annie M. Nelson was born at Drayton, N. D., April 19, 1908. Following the completion of his high school education in 1926 he continued to receive music and piano instruction from noted teachers. Entering a contest at San Francisco sponsored by the Federation of Music Clubs he was awarded first place. He also won first place in the Los Angeles contest, which gave him the privilege of representing the western division of the United States in a national contest held at San Francisco. Having been granted two year scholarships to study piano and music with some noted teachers in Europe, he sailed early in 1933 for London where he studied with Tobias Matthay, and later with Arthur Schnabel at Lake Como in Italy. Having completed his European studies in 1936, he made his debut at a recital in Berlin.

His second concert was given in London. On his return to America, he studied with Guy Maier at Ann Arbor, Mich., Herman Gense at San Francisco, Elizabeth Simpson at Berkeley and Harold Bauer at New York City. In 1937 he was called to New York City to play the Emperor Concerto by Beethoven, with a symphony orchestra in Carnegie Hall. Returning to Oakland to establish his studio, he played engagements with the Oakland Symphony Orchestra. His music program was interrupted by his entrance into the army in March, 1941, where he served as assistant to the Chaplain at Camp Knight, Oakland, Calif. After serving four and one-

half years he was discharged on Sept. 25, 1946 with the rank of corporal.

Philip R. Nelson was united in marriage to Elizabeth Wilton, Dec. 15, 1941. Elizabeth Wilton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wilton was born at Los Angeles, Calif., July 31, 1918. After completing high school she majored in music at Mills College and was awarded an A. B. degree in 1941. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson maintain a studio in Oakland and reside in that city.

JOY MARIE NELSON

* * * *

Joy M. Nelson, daughter of Alfred C. and Annie M. Nelson was born at Great Falls, Mont., April 7, 1914. United in marriage to Leslie Van Lehn July 26, 1935. Leslie Van Lehn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Van Lehn was born at Oakland, Calif., June 12, 1913. To their union were born Allan L., May 18, 1939, and Marilyn J., June 26, 1943. Mr. and Mrs. Van Lehn reside at Los Altos, California.

EUROPEAN TOUR

As a post graduate journey, Rev. and Mrs. Nelson sailed from Boston April 30, 1907 for Europe. Their first stop was at Liverpool. An overland trip was made from there to Hull, when a Norwegian steamer carried them to Bergen. From Bergen their itinerary included Stavanger, Vossvangen, Elvick, Odde, Thrpndhjen, and Freydenlund, which lies in Valdres Valley where his father and mother were born. At Freydenlund they visited his uncle, Ole Bren who migrated to America in 1865. After twenty-two years he returned to Norway and the Bren Gaard, the birthplace of his parents where he lived as a child and where he died at the advanced age of 80 years.

It was only a short distance up the Valdres Valley to Vang and Rovang Gaard in Slidre County, the birthplace and home of Alfred's father who migrated to America in 1850. The house and other gaard buildings remained as they were at that time.

Their return trip included visits to Oslo, Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Helsenburg, Berlin, Dresden, Munich and Brickenburg, the parental home of Philip Zimmerman where a visit was made to the home of Mrs. Nelson's aunt. They also visited Interlaken, Bern, Basil, and Strassburg before returning home to America. Philip Zimmerman's parents migrated from Altheim, Germany.

CYRUS ALBIN NELSON

* * *

Cyrus Albin Nelson, son of Oliver and Mary Ann Nelson was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota Feb. 3, 1883. In 1893 he moved with his parents to Plainview, Minn., where he remained until 1905 when he secured a position with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad as baggage agent at Sioux Falls, S. D., which position he continued to hold until 1907 when he was given the position of express messenger with the express company, operating between Williston and Minot, N. D., on the Great Northern Railroad, later transferred to the Whitefish run which he held for a number of years. He was united in marriage to Mamie Banning, July 17, 1907. Mamie Banning was born at Wheaton, Ill., July 19, 1887. To their union were born Richard A., June 12, 1908; Raymond R., July 17, 1910 and Arthur O., Aug. 26, 1912. They resided at Minot, N. D., Sherwood, N. D. and Whitefish, Montana.

RICHARD ALBERT NELSON

* * * *

Richard Albert Nelson, son of Cyrus A. and Mamie Nelson was born at Sherwood, N. D., June 12, 1908. United in marriage to Virginia E. Dofelmire June 11, 1938. Virginia E. Dofelmire, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Washington Dofelmire, was born at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, March 26, 1920. To their union were born Richard R., June 9, 1940 and Linda Kay, April 7, 1947. After completing high school at Whitefish, Richard A. Nelson attended Montana School of Mines and Montana State University. He entered government service as part time forest ranger in 1931, which position was made permanent in 1934. He was assigned to duties in Glacier National Park. He has been honored with many promotions including that of assistant superintendent of Glacier National Park. Leave of absence was granted to him for service in the Intelligence Department of the U. S. Army during the Second World War. He is at present program analyst, coordinating development activities for thirty-four National Park Service areas in the northeastern section of the United States embracing states from Wisconsin to and including the state of Maine. His office is at Philadelphia, Pa. The family resides at Sharon Hill, Pa.

RAYMOND ROVANG NELSON

* * * *

Raymond Rovang Nelson, son of Cyrus and Mamie Nelson, was born at Whitefish, Mont., July 17, 1910. United in marriage to Fern Deist, July 16, 1930. Fern Deist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Deist, was born at Glasgow, Mont., March 17, 1913.

To their union were born Betty Rae, Nov. 26, 1931; Jerry R., Jan. 13, 1938 and Dallas J. C., April 1, 1944. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Whitefish, Montana where he holds a position with the Great Northern Railroad.

BETTY RAE NELSON

* * * * *

Betty Rae Nelson, daughter of Raymond R. and Fern Nelson, was born at Whitefish, Mont., Nov. 26, 1931. United in marriage to Louis D. Card, Nov. 19, 1949. Louis D. Card, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis V. Card, was born at Havre, Mont., Aug. 14, 1929. To their union was born Carolin L., April 3, 1951. Betty Rae Nelson - Card was united in marriage to Charles W. Baldwin, Feb. 9, 1952. Charles W. Baldwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Baldwin was born at Spokane, Wash., May 21, 1923. To their union were born Bonnie K., Sept. 26, 1953; William F., Jan. 12, 1955 and Janet R., June 5, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin reside at Whitefish, Mont.

ARTHUR OLIVER NELSON

* * * *

Arthur O. Nelson, son of Cyrus A. and Mamie Nelson, was born at Whitefish, Mont., Aug. 26, 1912. United in marriage to Vera A. Deist, Aug. 22, 1937. Vera Deist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Deist, was born at Glasgow, Mont., May 27, 1911. He enlisted in the U. S. Army Sept. 18, 1942, and served as Corporal with the Engineers in Kiska, Saipan, and Okinawa, receiving an honorable discharge in 1945. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Kalispell, Mont., where he is employed with the U. S. Postal Department.

CHAPTER FOUR

OLE NELSON

* *

Ole Nelson, son of Nels and Anna Rovang - Olson was born on the Rovang Gaard, Valdres, Norway, August 4, 1832. United in marriage to Randi Fuglen in 1854. Randi Fuglen was born in Norway April, 1829. To their union were born seven sons. Nicholi, July 15, 1855; Knute, Jan. 29, 1859; Edward, Aug. 5, 1863; Christian, Dec. 23, 1865; Andrew, July 4, 1868; Ole O., Nov. 1, 1871 and Joseph M., Aug. 2, 1876.

Ole Nelson migrated to America with his parents in 1850, who first settled in the pioneer settlement of Cambridge, Wis., moving to Decorah, Iowa in 1852, and to Minnesota Territory in 1854, where new land had recently been opened to settlers. Their first home in America was a dugout on a choice piece of prairie land in the east portion of Plainview Township, in Wabasha County on which they claimed squatters rights and cultivated some nearby land for wheat crops. The stay of the family on this land, however, was short as they were driven off by claim jumpers. It was later learned that this land was Indian script land, and could be held only by squatters with Indian blood. This land later became the farm home of Orrin Wood.

Ole Nelson and his family again took up squatters land rights. This time in Oakwood Township where they constructed a home and stock shelters of logs from the timber, and where they lived peaceably until the early spring of 1881, when they again

felt the urge to seek land in a new part of the great America, in order that their family of boys could also possess land on reaching their majority. It was in the early spring, shortly after the last snow had disappeared that Ole Nelson, his wife, and six sons joined relatives and friends in a caravan of covered wagons, some drawn by oxen, others by mules or horses, all headed westward to the great prairies of Dakota Territory where unlimited acres of good prairie land were free to settlers.

On their arrival in Dakota Territory, they filed a pre-emption claim to a quarter section of land in Argo Township, Brookings County, on which they established their home by constructing a sod shanty, which was soon replaced with a frame structure. The building of the Rock Island Railroad into the Territory in 1880 establishing the town of Toronto, boomed the country by providing nearby markets for wheat the farmers had to sell. A large farm dwelling and other farm buildings in keeping with the development of the country were constructed. This remained the family home until their deaths, Ole, October 10, 1900, at the age of 68 years, and Randi, May 29, 1913, at the age of 84 years. Their bodies lie at rest in Toronto Cemetery.

The homestead is still in the Nelson family being handed down from generation to generation.

NICHOLI O. NELSON

* * *

Nicholi O. Nelson, son of Ole and Randi Nelson was born on a farm near Plainview, Minnesota, July 15, 1855. United in marriage to Jennie Olson, Dec. 24, 1879. Jennie Olson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Erick Olson was born in Norway, Jan. 16, 1852. She came to America at the age of thirteen years and settled in the Plainview vicinity. To their union were born Otto A., March 20, 1880; Edward, Aug. 5, 1883, died Dec. 9, 1914; Chester R., March 6, 1884; Grace Rose, Nov. 13, 1885; Cyrus Aber, Mar. 22, 1889; Minnie N., July 13, 1891 and Edna J., April 4, 1893. Nicholi O. Nelson, with his family, migrated to Dakota Territory in 1881. Homesteaded land in Argo Township, Brookings County, on which he resided until his death, July 22, 1933, at the age of 78 years. Jennie Olson - Nelson died Nov. 15, 1914, at the age of 62 years. Their bodies lie at rest in their family lot in the cemetery near Toronto.

OTTO A. NELSON

* * * *

Otto A. Nelson, son of Nicholi O. and Jennie Nelson was born on a farm near Millville, Minnesota, March 20, 1880. He migrated to Dakota Territory with his parents when a year old. Lived with his parents in Argo Township, Brookings County, until he was united in marriage to Carrie Lovaas, Nov. 4, 1903. Carrie Lovaas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Lovaas, was born on a farm near Astoria, S. D., Aug. 20, 1878. To their union were born Lavina, Aug. 12, 1905; Wallace, Mar. 26, 1908; Norman, Feb. 11, 1911 and Adalaid, July 5, 1914. Adalaid died Oct. 20, 1933 at the age of 19 years. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in the Toronto Cemetery.

LAVINA NELSON

* * * * *

Lavina Nelson, daughter of Otto A. and Carrie Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 12, 1906. United in marriage to Donald Seeley, Jan. 21, 1942.

Donald Seeley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Seeley, was born at Lincoln, Nebraska, Jan. 10, 1913. To their union was born a son, Michael, Aug. 14, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Seeley reside at Granite Falls, Minn., where they are on the nursing staff of the State Hospital.

WALLACE L. NELSON

* * * * *

Wallace Nelson, son of Otto A. and Carrie Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 26, 1909. United in marriage to Verll Gravening, April 6, 1919. Verll Gravening, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Gravening was born at Toronto, S. D., April 6, 1919. To their union were born Lane J., July 26, 1941; Robert A., June 19, 1945; Lucile V., Oct. 9, 1946 and Darris Ray, May 5, 1953. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are farmers and reside at Toronto, S. D.

NORMAN NELSON

* * * * *

Norman Nelson, son of Otto A. and Carrie Nelson was born at Toronto, S. D., Feb. 11, 1911. United in marriage to Jean Phelps, Nov. 11, 1945. Jean Phelps, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Phelps, was born at Brookings, S. D., July 15, 1921. To their union were born Nancy Jean, April 20, 1948 and Karen Elizabeth, June 21, 1951. Norman Nelson attended South Dakota State College. The family resides at Sioux Falls where is manager of Sioux Valley Co-Op Milk Producer's Association.

CHESTER R. NELSON

* * * *

Chester R. Nelson, son of Nicholi and Jennie Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 6, 1884. United in marriage to Bernice Longman, March 5,

1919. Bernice Longman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Longman was born at Henry, Ill., April 5, 1896. To their union were born Leland R., Jan. 29, 1920; Bonita Claire, May 10, 1925; Gloria Ann, Oct. 16, 1933 and Charlene, Dec. 17, 1935.

Chester R. Nelson joined the U. S. Armed Forces in World War I in June, 1918, receiving his discharge the following year. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson resided at De Peu, Ill., for a number of years and later moved to Bellflower, California where they now reside.

LELAND R. NELSON

* * * * *

Leland R. Nelson, son of Chester and Bernice Nelson was born at Toronto, S. D., Jan. 29, 1920. United in marriage to Ethel Stoner, Sept. 22, 1940. Ethel Stoner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stoner, was born at Princeton, Ill., Oct. 12, 1923. To their union were born David L., Feb. 20, 1942 and Dennis R., Aug. 19, 1947. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Melledgeville, Ill., where he is regional supervisor for the American Farmers Insurance Co.

BONITA CLAIRE NELSON

* * * * *

Bonita Claire Nelson, daughter of Chester R. and Bernice Nelson, was born at Princeton, Ill., May 10, 1925. United in marriage to LaVerne C. Michael, Dec. 13, 1941. LaVerne C. Michael, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Michael, was born at Spring Valley, Ill., July 16, 1920. Mr. and Mrs. Michael have since separated and Bonita Claire Nelson assumed her maiden name and resides at Danville, Ill.

GLORIA ANN NELSON

* * * * *

Gloria Ann Nelson, daughter of Chester R. and

Bernice Nelson, was born at Princeton, Ill., Oct. 16, 1933. United in marriage to Ralph L. Bustrum, Oct. 16, 1953. Ralph L. Bustrum, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Bustrum, was born at Springfield, Ohio, Oct. 30, 1922. To their union was born a daughter, Elizabeth Ann, Aug. 6, 1954. Mr. Bustrum entered the armed services of the U. S., serving in World War II. Mr. and Mrs. Bustrum reside at Bellflower, California where Mr. Bustrum has a civil service position with the Rancho Alimigos.

CHARLENE NELSON

* * * * *

Charlene Nelson, daughter of Chester and Bernice Nelson, was born at Princeton, Ill., Dec. 17, 1935. Charlene is employed as secretary at the King Kelley Marlmade Co., and is also attending college part time. She resides at home with her parents at Bellflower, California.

GRACE ROSE NELSON

* * * *

Grace R. Nelson, daughter of Nicholi and Jennie Nelson was born on a farm at Toronto, S. D., Nov. 13, 1885. United in marriage to Ernest L. Richardson, Dec. 30, 1903. Ernest L. Richardson, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Richardson, was born at Owantonna, Minnesota, Nov. 13, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson are farmers and reside on a farm at White, S. D. To their union were born ten children, three sons and seven daughters, Grace Rose, Mar. 2, 1905; Ada V., June 14, 1907; Marion J., Oct. 21, 1909; Rodney, N., April 23, 1912; Evelyn L., June 4, 1914; Glenn L., Dec. 30, 1915; Everest C., Mar. 14, 1916; Doris J., April 30, 1919; Irene D., Mar. 16, 1921 and Mardell C. Oct. 10, 1924.

GRACE ROSE RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Grace R. Richardson, dauughter of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm at White, S. D., March 2, 1905. United in marriage to Harlan Gillispie, May 12, 1930. Harlan Gillispie, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gillispie, was born at Huron, S. D., May 26, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Gillispie reside at Gardena, California, where they are employed in a war defense plant. To their union were born two sons, James H., Jan. 20, 1936 and Dennis J., Sept. 24, 1938.

ADA V. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Ada V. Richardson, daughter of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm at White, S. D., June 14, 1907 and died on July 18, 1935. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in the Brookings, S. D. Cemetery.

MARION J. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Marion J. Richardson, daughter of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm at White, S. D., Oct. 21, 1909. United in marriage to Wm. Horner, Dec. 29, 1937. William Horner, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Horner, was born on a farm near Sheldon, Iowa, July 28, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Horner follow the occupation of farming and reside west of Toronto, S. D. To their union was born a son, William R., April 8, 1944.

RODNEY RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Rodney N. Richardson, son of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson was born on a farm near

White, S. D., April 23, 1912. Rodney Richardson is single and resides on a farm with his parents.

EVELYN L. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Evelyn L. Richardson, daughter of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm near White, S. D., June 4, 1914. United in marriage to Morris Tisdel, Aug. 20, 1936. Morris Tisdel, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Tisdel, was born at Huron, S. D., April 12, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Tisdel reside at Minneapolis, Minnesota where Mr. Tisdel is employed in a defense plant. To their union were born three daughters. Carol J., Aug. 15, 1938; Karen, Jan. 31, 1940 and Sharron, Nov. 14, 1942.

GLENN L. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Glenn L. Richardson, son of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm near White, S. D., Dec. 30, 1915. He is single and is serving in the army stationed in England as a military policeman.

EVEREST C. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Everest C. Richardson, son of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm near White, S. D., March 14, 1916. He is single and is now serving in the U. S. Navy.

DORIS J. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Doris J. Richardson, daughter of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm near White, S. D., April 30, 1919. United in marriage to Orlin Kreger, Nov. 6, 1943. Orlin Kreger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Kreger, was born near Clear

Lake, S. D., Aug. 15, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Kreger are farmers and reside near Clear Lake, S. D.

IRENE D. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Irene D. Richardson, daughter of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm near White, S. D., March 16, 1921. United in marriage to Wayne Elston, Sept. 24, 1938. Wayne Elston was born at Bushnell, S. D., May 11, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Elston reside in Minneapolis where Mr. Elston is employed in the milling industry. To their union was born a daughter, DeMaris, Sept. 2, 1943.

MARDELL C. RICHARDSON

* * * * *

Mardell C. Richardson, daughter of Grace R. and Ernest L. Richardson, was born on a farm near White, S. D., Oct. 10, 1924. United in marriage to Lyle E. Morrison, Nov. 14, 1941. Lyle E. Morrison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Morrison, was born at Brookings, S. D., Sept. 25, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison reside at Alameda, California. Mr. Morrison is now serving in the U. S. Navy as radio operator. To their union were born a son and a daughter, Lary L., Dec. 4, 1942 and Sandra J., Nov. 20, 1944.

CYRUS ABER NELSON

* * * *

Cyrus A. Nelson, son of Nicholi and Jennie Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., May 22, 1889. United in marriage to Anna Iverson, June 16, 1923. Anna Iverson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Iverson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 29, 1890. To their union was born a son, Linden O., May 10, 1927. Cyrus A. Nelson died May 26, 1945, at the age of

56 years. His body lies at rest in Methodist Cemetery, Toronto, S. D. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were farmers and resided near Toronto, S. D.

MINNIE N. NELSON

* * * *

Minnie N. Nelson was born on the family homestead at Toronto, S. D., July 25, 1891, the daughter of Nicholi O. and Jennie Nelson. She attended school as a girl and grew to womanhood in the community. Moved to Illinois in 1922 and was united in marriage to Andrew Schmitt of Henry, Illinois, April 1, 1921. Andrew Schmitt was born on a farm near Henry, Ill., April 22, 1883, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michel Schmitt. To this union were born two children, Glenn G., May 24, 1924 and Mabel, March 18, 1926.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew E. Schmitt reside on a farm near Putnam, Illinois.

GLENN G. SCHMITT

* * * * *

Glenn G. Schmitt, son of Minnie N. and Andrew Schmitt, was born at Putnam, Ill., May 24, 1924. He enlisted in the Armed Forces of the United States in March, 1943 and served with the army in the European war.

MABEL SCHMITT

* * * * *

Mabel Schmitt, daughter of Minnie N. and Andrew Schmitt, was born at Putnam, Ill., March 18, 1926. United in marriage to Merle Thomas, June 3, 1944. Merle Thomas was born at Putnam, Ill., Aug. 31, 1920, the son of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Thomas. They reside at La Salle, Illinois.

EDNA J. NELSON

* * * *

Edna J. Nelson, daughter of Nicholi and Jennie Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., April 4, 1893. United in marriage to August Quickstad, June 15, 1923. August Quickstad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Quickstad, was born at Toronto, S. D., Jan. 19, 1890. To their union were born Laron, Aug. 11, 1925, Shirley, June 5, 1928 and Vera, Sept. 1, 1930. Mr. and Mrs. Quickstad resided on a farm near Toronto, S. D., until the death of Mrs. Quickstad, April 3, 1943, at the age of 50 years. Her body lies at rest in the Toronto Cemetery.

LARON QUICKSTAD

* * * * *

Laron Quickstad, son of Edna J. and August Quickstad, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 11, 1925. United in marriage to Shirleyann Kalz, Sept. 4, 1954. Shirleyann Kalz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Kalz, was born at New Ulm, Minnesota, July 21, 1926. To their union were born Jane Louise, April 26, 1955 and Jill Marie, May 13, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Quickstad reside at St. Paul, Minnesota.

SHIRLEY J. QUICKSTAD

* * * * *

Shirley J. Quickstad, daughter of Edna J. and August Quickstad, was born at Toronto, S. D., June 5, 1928. United in marriage to Merle T. Hagseth, Dec. 20, 1947. Merle T. Hagseth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Hagseth, was born at Bruce, S. D., Feb. 6, 1923. Their adopted son, Tommy Lee, was born April 10, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Hagseth are farmers and reside at Bruce, S. D.

VERA A. QUICKSTAD

* * * * *

Vera A. Quickstad, daughter of Edna J. and August Quickstad, was born at Toronto, S. D., Sept. 1, 1930. United in marriage to Anthony Munks, Oct. 3, 1953. Anthony Munks, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Munks, was born at Seattle, Wash., Jan. 27, 1928. Mr. and Mrs. Munks reside at Seattle, Washington.

KNUTE NELSON

* * *

Knute Nelson, son of Ole and Randi Nelson, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, Jan. 29, 1859. Migrated to Dakota Territory with his parents in 1881 and remained at home with them until his death July 27, 1888 at the age of 29 years. His body lies at rest in the Methodist Cemetery, Toronto, South Dakota.

EDWARD NELSON

* * *

Edward Nelson, son of Ole and Randi Nelson, was born near Millville, Minnesota, Aug. 5, 1863. United in marriage to Caroline Larson, July 9, 1888. Caroline Larson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Larson, was born in Dodge County, Minn., Nov. 19, 1862. To their union were born Alma, July 31, 1890; Roy, Dec. 4, 1891; Anna, Mar. 29, 1893 and Arnold, Mar. 19, 1894. Edward Nelson migrated west with his parents in 1881, settling on land in the northeast portion of Brookings County, a short distance south of what is now Toronto. He became a farmer and followed that profession until his death, Dec. 9, 1914, at the age of 51 years. Caroline Larson - Nelson died March 29, 1923 at the age of 61 years. Their bodies lie at rest in the Toronto, South Dakota Cemetery.

ALMA NELSON

* * * *

Alma Nelson, daughter of Edward and Caroline Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., July 31, 1890. United in marriage to Nathan Hover, Sept. 18, 1912. Nathan Hover, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hover, was born at Decorah, Iowa, Dec. 17, 1887. To their union were born Glenn F., July 24, 1913; Raymond W., Dec. 31, 1916 and Lucile F., March 4, 1919. Raymond W. Hover died Jan. 14, 1946 at the age of 30 years. Lucile F. Hover died Dec. 1, 1937 at the age of 18 years. Nathan Hover died Oct. 1, 1947 at the age of 55 years. Their bodies lie at rest in the Toronto, S. D. Cemetery. Mrs. Hover resides at Astoria, South Dakota.

GLENN F. HOVER

* * * * *

Glenn F. Hover, son of Alma and Nathan Hover, was born at Minneapolis, Minn., July 24, 1913. United in marriage to Criska Westgard, Sept. 14, 1940. Criska Westgard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Westgard, was born at Astoria, S. D., April 30, 1922. To their union were born Diane, Dec. 25, 1941; Michael, Mar. 6, 1944; Daniel, May 2, 1947 and Gary, Mar. 7, 1952. Dr. Hover is a veterinarian. The family resides at Clear Lake, South Dakota.

ROY NELSON

* * * *

Roy Nelson, son of Edward and Caroline Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Dec. 4, 1891. United in marriage to Mabel Longman, April 15, 1914. Mabel Longman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Longman, was born at Henry, Illinois, October 25, 1894. To their union was born Fleta, Oct. 30, 1915. Mr.

and Mrs. Nelson resided at Toronto until his death Oct. 3, 1917. Mrs. Nelson died April 7, 1949. Their bodies lie at rest in Toronto, S. D. Cemetery.

FLETA NELSON

* * * * *

Fleta Nelson, daughter of Roy and Mabel Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Oct. 30, 1915. United in marriage to George Hartman, June 27, 1937. George Hartman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hartman, was born at Cassopolis, Michigan, Sept. 17, 1914. To their union was born a daughter, Carol Jo, April 9, 1938. Mr. and Mrs. Hartman reside at Bellflower, California.

JOSEPHINE CAROL HARTMAN

* * * * * *

Josephine Carol Hartman, daughter of Fleta and George L. Hartman, was born at Pontiac, Ill., April 9, 1938. United in marriage to Jimmy Gerard, Oct. 7, 1955. Jimmy Gerard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gerard, was born at Sweetwater, Texas, Jan. 23, 1933. To their union was born a daughter, Cheryl Lee, April 23, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Gerard reside at Bellflower, California.

ANNA NELSON

* * * *

Anna Nelson, daughter of Edward and Caroline Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 29, 1893. United in marriage to Cyrus Spande, Oct. 13, 1913. Cyrus Spande, son of Christ Spande, was born in Filmore County, Minnesota, Aug. 29, 1882. To their union were born Irvin, April 5, 1914; Verna, March 11, 1916; Reber, Mar. 14, 1918; Thelma, Jan. 21, 1921 and Wanda, Aug. 29, 1928. Mr. and Mrs. Spande resided at Montevideo, Minn., until the death of Mrs. Spande, January 14, 1949.

IRVIN L. SPANDE

* * * * *

Irvin L. Spande, son of Anna and Cyrus Spande, was born at Brandt, S. D., April 5, 1914. United in marriage to Vivian L. Skold, Sept. 10, 1939, Vivian L. Skold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vern Skold, was born at Dassel, Minnesota, March 26, 1916. To their union were born Sharon L., Jan. 4, 1942 and Meilon Lee, July 26, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Spande are merchants and reside at Milaca, Minnesota.

VERNA C. SPANDE

* * * * *

Verna C. Spande, daughter of Anna and Cyrus Spande, was born at Brandt, S. D., March 11, 1916. United in marriage to Arthur O. Metling, June 23, 1938. Arthur O. Metling, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Metling, was born at Montevideo, Minnesota, Jan. 6, 1907. To their union by adoption, Artur, born Aug. 16, 1948 and Anita, Nov. 3, 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Metling are farmers and reside at Boyd, Minnesota.

REBER SPANDE

* * * * *

Reber Spande, son of Anna and Cyrus Spande, was born at Brandt, S. D., March 14, 1918. United in marriage to Margot M. Skold, Mar. 15, 1942. Margot Skold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vern Skold, was born at Cokato, Minn., Jan. 22, 1922. To their union were born a son, Harlan, Dec. 18, 1943; Lon E., March 3, 1947 and Dale A., July 2, 1948. Mr. and Mrs. Spande resided at Milaca, Minnesota until his death, April 17, 1954.

THELMA SPANDE

* * * * *

Thelma Spande, daughter of Anna and Cyrus

Spande, was born at Boyd, Minn., Jan. 21, 1921. United in marriage to Elliott Strand, Aug. 29, 1944. Elliott Strand, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strand, was born at Boyd, Minn., Nov. 11, 1913. To their union were born Lary, Dec. 19, 1947; Steven, Mar. 28, 1951 and Garry, Aug. 17, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are farmers and reside at Boyd, Minnesota.

WANDA SPANDE

* * * * *

Wanda Spande, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anna and Cyrus Spande, was born at Montevideo, Minn., Aug. 29, 1928. United in marriage to James Bjerk, May 14, 1949. James Bjerk, son of Mr. and Mrs. James S. Bjerk, Sr., was born at Beaver Creek, Minn., Dec. 23, 1923. To their union were born David, Jan. 31, 1950; Vichy Ann, Nov. 26, 1951 and Danny, Aug. 8, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Bjerk reside at Benson, Minnesota.

ARNOLD NELSON

* * * *

Arnold Nelson, son of Edward and Caroline Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 19, 1894. United in marriage to Amanda Fjerstad, May 1, 1917. Amanda Fjerstad, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fjerstad, was born at Winona, Minn., Oct. 5, 1897. To their union were born Earl L., Nov. 17, 1918; Arlene V., July 10, 1921; Marlys C., Jan. 28, 1923; Vernon O., Oct. 12, 1924; Arnold R., Jan. 31, 1930; Beverly A., Feb. 11, 1932 and Mildred C., June 21, 1937. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson resided at Watertown, S. D. until his death Oct. 4, 1947. Mrs. Nelson resides at Portland, Oregon.

EARL NELSON

* * * * *

Earl Nelson, son of Arnold and Amanda Nelson, was born at Hendricks, Minnesota, Nov. 17, 1918. United in marriage to Frieda Gorte, June 29, 1940. Frieda Gorte, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Gorte, was born at Sagninaw, Michigan, Aug. 30, 1916. To their union were born Karen Ann, Feb. 17, 1942 and Barbara Jean, May 16, 1948. Earl Nelson served in the Navy from 1944 to 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Saginaw, Michigan.

ARLENE NELSON

* * * * *

Arlene Nelson, daughter of Arnold and Amanda Nelson, was born at Canby, Minnesota, July 10, 1921. United in marriage to Merle A. Pedersen, June 5, 1940. Merle Pedersen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Pedersen, was born at Pierson, Iowa, Sept. 10, 1913. To their union were born Connie L., Nov. 26, 1941 and Dennis M., Dec. 19, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Pedersen reside at Portland, Oregon.

MARLYS NELSON

* * * * *

Marlys Nelson, daughter of Arnold and Amanda Nelson, was born at Canby, Minnesota Jan. 28, 1923. United in marriage to John W. Nelson, Dec. 20, 1943. John W. Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arther Nelson, was born in Cass County, Missouri, Jan. 24, 1925. To their union were born Marilyn J., June 26, 1944; Arthur A., April 12, 1946; Carol M., Sept. 3, 1948; Earl W., July 19, 1952 and triplets, Beverly L., Bonnie C., and Barbara S., on September 2, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Portland, Oregon.

VERNON NELSON

* * * * *

Vernon Nelson, son of Arnold and Amanda Nelson, was born at Canby, Minnesota Oct. 12, 1924. United in marriage to Arlene Norris, Dec. 2, 1947. Arlene Norris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Norris, was born at Aurora, S. D., Aug. 6, 1926. To their union were born Paula Rae, Sept. 28, 1948 and James Dale, July 9, 1950. Vernon Nelson served with the Air Corps from 1943 to 1945. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Brookings, South Dakota.

ARNOLD NELSON

* * * * *

Arnold Nelson, son of Arnold and Amanda Nelson, was born at Watertown, S. D., Jan. 31, 1930. United in marriage to Jacquelyn Rawlins, Oct. 15, 1950. Jacquelyn Rawlins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rawlins, was born at Beloit, Wisconsin, Oct. 2, 1931. To their union were born Linda Lee, July 3, 1954 and Douglas D., Feb. 12, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Portland, Oregon.

BEVERLY NELSON

* * * * *

Beverly Ann Nelson, daughter of Arnold and Amanda Nelson, was born at Watertown, South Dakota, Feb. 11, 1932. United in marriage to Joseph C. Shorthouse, July 29, 1956. Joseph C. Shorthouse, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Shorthouse, was born at Portland, Oregon, March 21, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Shorthouse reside at Portland, Oregon.

MILDRED NELSON

* * * * *

Mildred Nelson, daughter of Arnold and Amanda Nelson, was born at Watertown, S. D., June 21, 1937. Mildred Nelson resides at Portland, Oregon.

CHRISTIAN NELSON

* * *

Christian Nelson, son of Ole and Randi Nelson, was born at Millville, Minn., Dec. 23, 1865, migrated with his parents to Argo Township, Brookings County, Dakota Territory in 1882. United in marriage to Josephine M. Quisel, April 18, 1889. Josephine Quisel, daughter of Lars and Gertrude Quisel, was born at Locust Lane, Iowa, Feb. 22, 1867. To their union were born Grace Royella, August 16, 1890; Lester Odin, December 2, 1891; Ernest Lloyd, Aug. 23, 1893; Spencer Kingsley, Dec. 20, 1894; Guy Richard, Aug. 2, 1896; Verna Evelyn, July 1, 1899; Irvin Roosevelt, Jan. 19, 1902 and Homer Sylvester, Nov. 13, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were farmers and resided at Toronto, S. D., until 1911 when they moved with their family to a farm at Wadena, Minn., where they resided until his death, Aug. 8, 1912, at the age of 46 years. Josephine Quisel - Nelson died Feb. 2, 1952, at the age of 84 years. Their bodies lie at rest in the Wadena, Minn., Cemetery

GRACE ROYELLA NELSON

* * * *

Grace R. Nelson, daughter of Christian and Josephine Nelson, was born in Brookings County, S. D., Aug. 16, 1890. She was instructor of the music and art departments in the public schools of North Dakota and Minnesota for a number of years and since that time she has been secretary in the office of the University of Minnesota. Her residence is at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

LESTER ODIN NELSON

* * * *

Lester O.Nelson, son of Christian and Josephine Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Dec. 2, 1891.

United in marriage to Stina Engen, June 30, 1915. Stina Engen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Odin Engen, was born at Sacred Heart, Minn., June 3, 1894. To their union were born Gregg Kingsley, Jan. 29, 1916; Gordon Blair, Nov. 15, 1918; Gayle Marcia, Jan. 12, 1921 and Beryl, Jan. 4, 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Long Beach, California.

GREGG KINGSLEY NELSON

* * * * *

Gregg K. Nelson, son of Lester O. and Stina Nelson, was born at Sebeka, Minn., Jan. 29, 1916. United in marriage to Bertha Johnson, Dec., 1934. Bertha Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elleck Johnson, was born at Eagle Bend, Minn., Sept. 21, 1909. To their union were born Ronald, Sept. 1, 1936 and Blair, June 30, 1943. Mr. Nelson served with the U. S. Army during the Second World War. They reside at Henning, Minnesota.

GORDON BLAIR NELSON

* * * * *

Gordon B. Nelson, son of Lester and Stina Nelson, was born at Sebaka, Minn., Nov. 15, 1918. United in marriage to Mary Murphy, Sept. 15, 1940. Mary Murphy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Murphy, was born at Saskatoon, Sask., Can., May 17, 1920. Gordon B. Nelson attended Minnesota University and served with the Marines three years in the South Pacific campaign, retiring with the rank of major. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Chicago, Ill.

GAYLE MARCIA NELSON

* * * * *

Gayle Marcia Nelson, daughter of Lester O. and Stina Nelson, was born at Sebaka, Minn., Jan. 12, 1921. United in marriage to Andrew Winnio,

Jan., 1941. Andrew Winnio, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Winnio, was born at Fergus Falls, Minn., Jan. 8, 1920. To their union were born Lynn Marcia, Oct., 1942 and Bonnie Kay, Dec. 12, 1944. Mrs. Winnio is a registered nurse. They reside at Moorhead, Minnesota.

BERYL NELSON

* * * * *

Beryl Nelson, son of Lester O. and Stina Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Jan. 4, 1924.

ERNEST LLOYD NELSON

* * * *

Ernest Lloyd Nelson, son of Christian and Josephine Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 23, 1893. United in marriage to Mabel Marie Edgington, May 5, 1917. Mabel M. Edgington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Edgington, was born at Sioux Falls, Sept. 20, 1899. Mr. Nelson is engaged in the wholesaling of lumber. They reside at Los Angeles, California.

DR. SPENCER KINGSLEY NELSON

* * * *

Dr. Spencer Kingsley Nelson, son of Christian and Josephine Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Dec. 20, 1894. United in marriage to Josephine Sibley, Nov. 15, 1922. Josephine Sibley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sibley, was born at Worthington, Minn., Jan. 17, 1893. She is a descendant of Henry Sibley, first governor of Minnesota. She is also a descendant of Stephen Hopkins, (a Quaker) one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He came from the state of Rhode Island, was its first governor and the first Chancellor of Brown University of Rhode Island. Mr. Hopkins was a

descendent of Hopkins who came to America on the Mayflower. Spencer K. Nelson attended McKillipp Veterinary College and resides at Arlington, Mass., where he holds a position as U. S. Supervisor of meat inspection.

REV. GUY RICHARD NELSON

* * * *

Rev. Guy Richard Nelson, son of Christian and Josephine Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Aug. 2, 1896. United in marriage to Thelma Adams, Dec. 30, 1928. Thelma Adams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John O. Adams, was born at Greentown, Ind., July 16, 1904. To their union were born John R., Aug. 2, 1937 and Donald R., Feb. 23, 1944. Rev. Nelson is a Methodist minister and they reside at Elm Grove, Wisconsin.

VERNA EVELYN LUCRETIA NELSON

* * * *

Verna E. L. Nelson, daughter of Christian and Josephine Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., July 1, 1899. United in marriage to Chester L. Graus, June 9, 1932. Chester L. Graus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael M. Graus, was born at Hastings, Minnesota, Feb. 21, 1896. He attended St. Thomas College and Minnesota University before serving in the armed forces of the U. S. in the First World War. Mrs. Graus attended the McPhail Conservatory of Music and was music and art instructor in public schools of North Dakota and Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Graus are hardware and lumber merchants and reside at Hastings, Minnesota.

DR. IRVIN ROOSEVELT NELSON

* * * *

Dr. Irvin R. Nelson, son of Christian and Jose-

phine Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Jan. 19, 1902. United in marriage to Isabelle Sylvester, Mar. 8, 1947. Isabelle Sylvester, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Fletcher Sylvester, was born at Langdon, N. D., June 21, 1910. Irvin R. Nelson is a Doctor of Chiropractic with residence and clinic at East Jaffrey, N. H.

HOMER SYLVESTER NELSON

* * * *

Homer S. Nelson, son of Christian and Josephine Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., Nov. 13, 1906. United in marriage to Helen Napavance, Sept. 1, 1930. Helen Napavance, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Napavance, was born at Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 5, 1906. To their union was born a son, Jerome E., May 8, 1936. Homer S. Nelson served with the U. S. Army in the Second World War and retired from the army as major. The Nelsons reside at San Rafael, California.

ANDREW NELSON

* * *

Andrew Nelson, son of Ole and Randi Nelson, was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, July 4, 1868. Migrated with his parents to Dakota Territory in the spring of 1881, locating in Argo Township, Brookings County. United in marriage to Magnild Moe, Oct. 9, 1891. Magnild Moe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Moe, was born at Sundar, Norway, Aug. 14, 1873. Migrated to America with her parents in 1889, first settling in Minneapolis and later moving to Toronto, S. D. To their union were born Rachael, March 13, 1893; Beulah, April 17, 1894; Grant O., March 7, 1896; Alice M., July 6, 1898; Violet M., May 21, 1900; Hazel,

March 11, 1902; Amos E., March 14, 1904; Evangeline, Aug. 20, 1906; Nina, Oct. 21, 1908 and Lucile, Nov. 19, 1910. Andrew Nelson chose the barber profession as his vocation which he followed for many years, first at Watertown then to Sioux Falls in 1915. Andrew Nelson died Nov. 8, 1931 at the age of 63 years. His body lies at rest in Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls. Magnild Moe-Nelson resides with a daughter at Lincoln, Nebraska.

RACHEL B. NELSON

* * * *

Rachel B. Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 13, 1893. She graduated from the music department of the State College and devoted her time to teaching music. United in marriage to Leo G. Huffman, Sept. 27, 1911. Leo G. Huffman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Huffman, was born at Platte Center, Nebraska, Sept. 14, 1891. To their union were born Eugene R., Aug. 20, 1912; Cecil B., March 4, 1915; Leo, Sept. 28, 1920; Joyce M., June 13, 1925 and Glenn D., Feb. 4, 1932. Mr. and Mrs. Huffman resided for a time at Watertown, S. D., and St. Cloud, Minn., moving to California in 1933. They reside at Covina, California.

EUGENE R. HUFFMAN

* * * * *

Eugene R. Huffman, son of Rachel B. and Leo G. Huffman, was born at Whiting, Iowa, Aug. 20, 1912. Died Aug. 5, 1916 at the age of four years. His body lies at rest in Toronto, S. D. Cemetery.

CECIL B. HUFFMAN

* * * * *

Cecil B. Huffman, son of Rachel B. and Leo G. Huffman, was born at Watertown, S. D., March

4, 1915. United in marriage to Christine Whitehouse, Aug. 15, 1936. Christine Whitehouse was born at Henderson, Kentucky, March 13, 1920. To their union was born a son, Richard A., Jan. 10, 1939. Mr. Huffman serves as Captain of the Los Angeles fire department.

LEO G. HUFFMAN, JR.

* * * * *

Leo G. Huffman, Jr., son of Rachael B. and Leo G. Huffman, was born at St. Cloud, Minnesota, Sept. 28, 1920. United in marriage to Hazel E. Krause - Lahey, Aug. 21, 1948. Hazel E. Krause - Lahey, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Lahey, was born at Wooster, Ohio, March 11, 1920. To Hazel E. Krause - Lahey and husband was born a son, Ronald J., Jan. 7, 1942, who was adopted by Leo G. Huffman, Jr., and assumed the name of Ronald J. Huffman. Leo G. Huffman graduated from officer's training school of the Merchant Marine in June, 1942 and served on many merchant ships including the Edward Rollin Sills and S. S. Mercham with the rank of Mate. Mr. and Mrs. Huffman reside at Baldwin Park, California.

JOYCE M. HUFFMAN

* * * * *

Joyce M. Huffman, daughter of Rachel B. and Leo G. Huffman, was born at St. Cloud, Minn., June 13, 1925. United in marriage to Jesse L. Ingram, Dec. 12, 1942. Jesse Ingram was born at Bannor Springs, Kansas. To their union were born Sharon Joy, Dec. 30, 1946; Linda Rae, July 22, 1948 and Michael D., June 1, 1951. Jesse L. Ingram served overseas in the Second World War with the Fifth Ranger Battalion of the U. S. Army. For outstanding service he was

awarded the Presidential Citation, Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Mr. and Mrs. Ingram reside at Los Angeles, California.

BEULAH AMY NELSON

* * * *

Beulah Amy Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., April 17, 1894. United in marriage to Otto J. Spande, June 19, 1913. Otto Spande, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Spande, was born at Toronto, S. D., Dec. 9, 1892. To their union were born Nanthalia, Jan. 21, 1915 and Earl, Dec. 31, 1918. Mr. Spande was a railroad employee. They resided at Watertown, S. D. and later moved to Estherville, Iowa. Mrs. Spande was a member of the Methodist Church and active in fraternal work. Her untimely death occurred July 26, 1930 at the age of 36 years. Her body lies at rest in Oak Hill Cemetery, Estherville, Iowa.

NANTHALIA SPANDE

* * * * *

Nanthalia Spande, daughter of Otto and Beulah Spande, was born at Estherville, Iowa, Jan. 21, 1915. United in marriage to Edmund Callender, Dec. 31, 1934. Edmund Callender, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Callender, was born June 27, 1911. To their union was born a son who died at birth. Mr. Callender served in the communications division of the Air Force during the Second World War. They reside at Scotts Bluff, Nebraska.

EARL SPANDE

* * * * *

Earl Spande, son of Otto and Beulah Spande, was born at Estherville, Iowa, Dec. 31, 1918. United

in marriage to Jeremiah Keeling, Dec. 27, 1942. To their union was born a daughter Victoria, April 23, 1944. He served with the U. S. Army in the Second World War. Mr. and Mrs. Spande were divorced in 1946. She resides at Los Angeles, California.

GRANT ODEAN NELSON

* * * *

Grant Odean Nelson, son of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, S. D., March 7, 1896. United in marriage to Arlette Quick in 1924. Arlette Quick was born at Boise, Idaho. To their union was born a son, Bruce, April 4, 1925. Grant O. Nelson served as Sergeant with the U. S. Armed Forces at Demning, New Mexico and in the First World War in Europe. A resident of Sioux Falls, S. D. for a number of years, they then moved to Hollywood, California in 1921 remaining there until his death caused by a car accident April 21, 1939. His body lies at rest in the National Cemetery, Sawtelle, California.

BRUCE NELSON

* * * * *

Bruce Nelson, son of Grant O. and Arlette Nelson was born at Hollywood, California, April 4, 1925. He served with the U. S. Navy during the Second World War. His residence is at Los Angeles, California.

ALICE MURELLA NELSON

* * * *

Alice M. Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, July 6, 1898. United in marriage to Ervin Scharpen, July 5, 1919. To their union was born a daughter

Beverly V., June 17, 1920. Mr. and Mrs. Scharpen were later divorced. Alice M. Nelson - Scharpen was united in marriage to Torres Fossell, September 2, 1932. Torres Fossell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kjaerand Fossell, was born at Vikebygd, Norway, October 17, 1898, and immigrated to America in 1921. Mr. Fossell was a railroad employee and they resided at Estherville, Iowa, later moving to San Diego, California where they now reside.

BEVERLY VICTORIA SCHARPEN

* * * * *

Beverly V. Scharpen, daughter of Alice M. and Erwin Scharpen, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, June 17, 1920. United in marriage to Charles Reed, January 18, 1942. Charles Reed, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles V. Reed, was born at Des Moines, Iowa, February 12, 1919. Served in the U. S. Navy during the Second World War. Mr. and Mrs. Reed reside at San Diego, California.

VIOLET M. NELSON

* * * *

Violet M. Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, May 21, 1900. United in marriage to William R. Edgington, May 4, 1917. William R. Edgington, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Edgington, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, October 26, 1897. To their union was born a son who died at birth, June 1, 1924. Mr. Edgington entered the armed forces of the United States in 1917 and served throughout the European campaign in the First World War. He is a graduate of the Engineering Department of Minnesota University. The family resides at Lincoln, Nebraska, where he is with the district field office of the U. S. Soil Conservation Department.

HAZEL NELSON

* * * *

Hazel Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, March 11, 1902. United in marriage to Alva L. Jones, December 25, 1924. Alva L. Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Jones, was born at Waco, Texas, July 28, 1902. To their union were born Anneta Rea, February 13, 1927 and Robert T., September 29, 1928. Mr. and Mrs. Jones reside at Houston, Texas where he is a sales representative.

ANNETA REA JONES

* * * * *

Anneta Rea Jones, daughter of Hazel and Alva Jones, was born at Dallas, Texas, February 13, 1927. United in marriage to Robert Logan Martin, February 9, 1946. Robert L. Martin II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Martin, was born at Houston, Texas, March 13, 1921. To their union were born Robert L., March 10, 1947 and John S. M., August 29, 1949. Mr. Martin served as a sergeant in the Second World War. The family resides at Boynton, Texas.

ROBERT TYLER JONES

* * * * *

Robert Tyler Jones, son of Hazel and Alva L. Jones, was born at Dallas, Texas, September 29, 1928. United in marriage to Faye Keiper, August 9, 1950. Faye Keiper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Keiper, was born at Little Rock, Arkansas, May 30, 1929. To their union were born Steven R., June 6, 1951; Dannette Victoria, July 1, 1952 and Marion Shelley, July 23, 1953. Robert T. Jones graduated from Tulane University in 1951 with a B. S. Degree. The family resides at Corpus Christi, Texas where he is employed as a geologist for an oil company.

AMOS E. NELSON

* * * *

Amos E. Nelson, son of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, March 14, 1904. United in marriage to Gladys W. Johnson, August 15, 1927. Gladys Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson, was born at Watertown, South Dakota, June 24, 1907. To their union were born James M., November 17, 1933 and Dennis W., June 19, 1938. Amos E. Nelson was employed in Sioux Falls for several years previous to his enlistment in the U. S. Army July 2, 1942. Discharged in 1944 with the rank of Corporal. Amos E. and Gladys were divorced in 1946. He resides at Fargo, North Dakota.

EVANGELINE NELSON

* * * *

Evangeline Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, August 20, 1906. Died January 12, 1912 at the age of six years. Her body lies at rest in the Toronto South Dakota Cemetery.

NINA REBECCA NELSON

* * * *

Nina Rebecca Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, October 21, 1908. United in marriage to Donald J. Payne, August 6, 1927. Donald J. Payne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Payne, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, September 23, 1908. To their union were born Richard A., November 18, 1930; Janis Elane, May 24, 1933 and Byron, January 8, 1938. Nina and Donald Payne were divorced in 1945. Nina R. Payne resides at San Jose, California.

RICHARD ALLEN PAYNE

* * * * *

Richard Allen Payne, son of Nina R. and Donald R. Payne, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, November 18, 1930. United in marriage to Sheila Linahan, February 2, 1951. Sheila Linahan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Linahan, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota July 4, 1932. To their union were born Rebecca Ann, April 17, 1952; Brian L., March 23, 1954 and Madonna, May 18, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Payne reside at Mountain View, California, where he is with the Federal Home Loan Bank.

JANIS E. PAYNE

* * * * *

Janis E. Payne, daughter of Nina R. and Donald E. Payne, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota May 24, 1933. Died January 16, 1939 at the age of six years. Her body lies at rest in Woodlawn Cemetery, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

BYRON NELSON PAYNE

* * * * *

Byron Nelson Payne, son of Nina R. and Donald J. Payne, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, January 8, 1938. He was active in football at Washington High School, graduating in 1956. He is a member of the Naval Reserve and resides at San Jose, California.

LUCILE NELSON

* * * *

Lucile Nelson, daughter of Andrew and Magnild Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, November 19, 1910. United in marriage to Bernard R. Jolivette, February 22, 1928. Bernard R. Jolivette, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Jolivette, was born at

LaCrosse, Wisconsin, February 7, 1909. To their union were born Hollis E., October 10, 1928 and died October 30, 1928; Robert B., November 2, 1932 and Ronald L., December 6, 1935. Bernard R. Jolivette attended Nettleton College and served as instructor in bookkeeping. He is employed as a Public Accountant. Mr. and Mrs. Jolivette reside at Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

ROBERT BLAIR JOLIVETTE

* * * * *

Robert B. Jolivette, son of Lucile and Bernard R. Jolivette, was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, November 2, 1932. United in marriage to Jo Amundson, June 3, 1951. Jo Amundson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Amundson, was born at Yankton, South Dakota, March 23, 1934. To their union were born Robert B., May 13, 1952 and Jayson K., July 19, 1956. Mrs. Jolivette was selected Mrs. South Dakota in a popularity contest in 1954, sponsored by Shriver Co. Inc., and Radio Station K I S D and won one of the four trophies given at the National Contest held at Asbury Park, N. J. Robert Blair Jolivette became a member of the 175th Fighter Squadron when it was activated in 1951 and moved to Duluth, Minnesota and served as N. C. O. in charge of radio shop equipment. He gained the rank of sergeant. Mr. and Mrs. Jolivette reside at Sioux Falls, South Dakota where he is employed in the automobile industry.

RONALD LEE JOLIVETTE

* * * * *

Ronald Lee Jolivette, son of Lucile and Bernard R. Jolivette, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, December 6, 1935. He enlisted with the Marine Corps

in 1953. He was sent to San Diego, California for basic training and there won the expert rifleman's badge. He also attended radio and telegraph school. On completion of his training he was transferred to LeJune, North Carolina. He was discharged in 1954 due to spinal arthritis. On completion of a commercial course at Nettletons, he was placed on the Job Training Program in the architectural office of Lucas, Craig and Whitmen, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Jolivette reside at Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

OLE O. NELSON

* * *

Ole O. Nelson, son of Ole and Rose Nelson, was born on a farm in Wabasha County, Minnesota, November 1, 1871. He migrated with his parents to Argo Township, Brookings County, Territory of Dakota in the early spring of 1882. United in marriage to Amy Stevens on January 16, 1899. Amy Stevens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Knut Stevens, was born at Valdres, Norway, April 26, 1869. She came to America with her parents in 1881. To their union were born Bernice M., November 9, 1899; Ralph, April 2, 1901; Cora, April 7, 1903; Sylvia, October 31, 1905; Ruth, March 18, 1908; Kermit, April 19, 1910; Margaret, May 22, 1912; Cherry, August 1, 1916 and Merseides, November 15, 1921. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were farmers and moved to a farm four miles south of Toronto, South Dakota where they resided until 1907 when they moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Later they again moved to Toronto where they made their home for many years. Death came to Amy Stevens - Nelson, June 1, 1951, at the age of 70 years and to Ole O. Nelson, October 23, 1956 at the age of 84 years. Their

bodies lie at rest in the Toronto, South Dakota Cemetery.

BERNICE M. NELSON

* * * *

Bernice M. Nelson, daughter of Ole O. and Amy Stevens Nelson was born at Toronto, South Dakota, November 9, 1899. United in marriage to Vernon Youll, August 8, 1929. Vernon Youll, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Youll, was born at Battle Creek, Michigan, July 26, 1897. To their union was born a son, Jerry, March 20, 1933. He served in the army for two years and attended the University of North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Youll reside at Devils Lake, North Dakota where he is employed with the Central West Telephone Company.

RALPH NELSON

* * * *

Ralph Nelson, son of Ole O. and Amy Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, April 2, 1901. United in marriage to Lydia Matthieson, November 7, 1923. Lydia Matthieson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Matthieson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, June 25, 1902. To their union were born Roger, May 5, 1924; Orville, March 21, 1926; Arlan, August 12, 1929; Marlys and Marlen, twins, July 6, 1930 and died July 6, 1930. They lie at rest in the Canby Cemetery, Canby, Minnesota; also Beverly, May 11, 1931; Louvine, March 19, 1937 and Larry, October 9, 1939.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Toronto, South Dakota. He is engaged in electrical work. Arlen and Larry served with the U. S. Army in Korea. They reside at Toronto, South Dakota. Louvine resides at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

ROGER NELSON

* * * * *

Roger Nelson, son of Ralph and Lydia Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, May 5, 1924. United in marriage to Delaine Ost, November 2, 1949. Delaine Ost, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Ost, was born at Tulare, South Dakota, November 6, 1925. To their union was born a son, Robert, November 2, 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are farmers and reside at Toronto, South Dakota.

ORVILLE NELSON

* * * * *

Orville Nelson, son of Ralph and Lydia Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota March 21, 1926. United in marriage to Gertrude Prang, January 9, 1953. Gertrude Prang, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Prang, was born at Bemis, South Dakota October 12, 1926. A step daughter, Lois Mae Erickson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota January 26, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Clear Lake, South Dakota.

BEVERLY NELSON

* * * * *

Beverly Nelson, daughter of Ralph and Lydia Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, May 11, 1931. United in marriage to Ronald Lokken, December 25, 1950. Ronald Lokken, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ingvold Lokken, was born at Hendricks, Minnesota, September 18, 1930. To their union were born Leaone, September 30, 1951 and Ryan, December 30, 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Lokken reside at Rapid City, South Dakota.

CORA NELSON

* * * *

Cora Nelson, daughter of Ole O. and Amy Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, April 7, 1903. United in marriage to Louis Ahrendt, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Ahrendt, December 26, 1925. Louis Ahrendt was born at Luverne, Minnesota, November 22, 1899. To their union were born Gordon, April 1, 1922; Wayne, May 21, 1924 and died September 6, 1927; Shirley, November 17, 1926; Norman, August 20, 1930 and Ronald, December 28, 1932. Mr. and Mrs. Ahrendt reside at Luverne, Minnesota where he is employed by the Standard Oil Company.

GORDON AHRENDT

* * * * *

Gordon Ahrendt, son of Cora and Louis Ahrendt, was born at Luverne, Minnesota, April 1, 1922. United in marriage to Evelyn Snook, February 14, 1943. Evelyn Snook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harm Snook, was born at Ellsworth, Minnesota, August 2, 1923. To their union were born Steven, December 26, 1946 and Owen, February 5, 1951. Gordon Ahrendt served in the armed forces of the U. S. as pilot instructor in the Second World War. The family resides at Pipestone, Minnesota, where they are in the implement business.

SHIRLEY AHRENDT

* * * * *

Shirley Ahrendt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ahrendt, was born at Luverne, Minnesota, November 17, 1926. United in marriage to Donald Storterau November 3, 1946. Donald Storterau, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Storterau, was born at Luverne, Minnesota, January 3, 1925. To their union were born

Larry, September 13, 1947; Dennis, October 31, 1951 and Janis Lynn, July 14, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Storterau reside at Luverne, Minnesota.

NORMAN AHRENDT

* * * * *

Norman Ahrendt, son of Cora and Louis Ahrendt, was born at Luverne, Minnesota, August 20, 1930. United in marriage to Jeanne Juhl, June 24, 1951. Jeanne Juhl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Juhl, was born at Luverne, Minnesota, February 2, 1930. To their union was born a son, David, September 31, 1955. Norman Ahrendt served with the U. S. Army in the Korean War. He attended Augustana College and holds a position as athletic director in the public schools at Slayton, Minnesota, where they reside.

RONALD AHRENDT

* * * * *

Ronald Ahrendt, son of Cora and Louis Ahrendt, was born at Luverne, Minnesota, December 28, 1932. United in marriage to Lois Graff, July 9, 1953. Lois Graff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Graff, was born at Brandon, South Dakota August 25, 1933. He is in the U. S. Air Force and is stationed at Duluth, Minnesota.

SYLVIA NELSON

* * * *

Sylvia Nelson, daughter of Ole and Amy Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, October 31, 1905. United in marriage to Edward Guenther, March 12, 1927. Edward Guenther, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Guenther, was born at Parker, South Dakota, February 16, 1899. To their union were born Dean E., May 15, 1928 and Richard L., Septem-

ber 23, 1932. Sylvia is a graduate nurse and Edward is employed by the city street department.

DEAN E. GUENTHER

* * * * *

Dean E. Guenther, son of Sylvia and Edward Guenther, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, May 15, 1928. United in marriage to Dorothy Rohrer, August 17, 1950. Dorothy Rohrer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rohrer, was born at Madison, South Dakota April 14, 1927. To their union were born Jeffery Dean, December 4, 1954 and Andrea Lee, August 18, 1956. Dorothy graduated from college as Medical Technician. Following discharge from the U. S. Navy, Dean completed his medical course, receiving his doctor's degree from the University of Seattle in 1956. Dr. and Mrs. Guenther reside at St. Paul, Minnesota.

RICHARD L. GUENTHER

* * * * *

Richard L. Guenther, son of Sylvia and Edward Guenther, was born at Sioux Falls, South Dakota September 23, 1932, united in marriage to Jacquelyn Victor, May 26. 1957. Jacquelyn Victor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Victor, was born at Wayne, Nebraska, August 3, 1936. Richard L., attended Wayne, Nebraska Teachers' College following his overseas service with the Marines in Korea. Mr. and Mrs. Guenther reside at Wayne, Nebraska.

RUTH NELSON

* * * *

Ruth Nelson, daughter of Ole O. and Amy Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, March 18, 1908. United in marriage to Benjamin Weiss, Decem-

ber 19, 1929. Benjamin Weiss, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Weiss, was born in Russia, July 18, 1896. To their union were born Morton, December 15, 1930 and Myron, December 7, 1931. Morton served three years with the Marines in Korea. Myron died November 9, 1953. His body lies at rest in the Cemetery at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Weiss reside at Sioux Falls, South Dakota where Mr. Weiss operates a Collection Agency.

KERMIT NELSON

* * * *

Kermit Nelson, son of Ole O. and Amy Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota April 19, 1910. United in marriage to Edna Skaldusky, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Skaldusky, June 15, 1931. Edna Skaldusky was born at White, South Dakota, April 6, 1909.

Later divorced, Kermit Nelson was united in marriage to Marie Leko, April 1, 1946. Marie Leko, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Leko, was born at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 12, 1914. To their union were born Marva, November 15, 1946 and Wayne, February 12, 1948. He enlisted in the U. S. Air Corps and served on the troop transport command during the Second World War. The Nelsons reside at St. Paul, Minnesota.

MARGARET NELSON

* * * *

Margaret Nelson, daughter of Ole O. and Amy Nelson was born at Toronto, South Dakota, May 22, 1912. United in marriage to Ode Hegg, May 22, 1937. Ode Hegg, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hegg, was born at Bruce, South Dakota October 17, 1905. To their union were born Peter P., January 2, 1939; John D.,

December 7, 1941; Phillip, April 27, 1946 and Mark, December 1, 1950. Mr. and Mrs. Hegg reside at Sioux Falls, South Dakota where he is in the real estate business.

CHERRY NELSON

* * * *

Cherry Nelson, son of Ole O. and Amy Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota August 1, 1916. United in marriage to Eunice Gilbert, September 25, 1939. Eunice Gilbert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert, was born at Astoria, South Dakota, July 21, 1912. To their union was born a son, Neil, June 19, 1946. Cherry Nelson enlisted in the Army in 1943, serving with the Air Corps in the European War. He is a rural mail carrier at Astoria, South Dakota.

MERSEIDES NELSON

* * * *

Merseides Nelson, daughter of Ole O. and Amy Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, November 15, 1921. United in marriage to Ted Broussard, March 7, 1943. Ted Broussard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Broussard, was born at Huttig, Arkansas, April 1, 1920. To their union were born Susan, November 17, 1948 and Robert, June 14, 1954. Ted Broussard served with the 21st Bomber Command in Europe during World War II. At present he is with the Army of Occupation in Europe. Their home is at Goldsboro, North Carolina.

JOSEPH M. NELSON

* * *

Joseph M. Nelson, son of Ole and Randi Nelson, was born at Millville, Minnesota, August 2, 1876. United in marriage to Martha R. White, February 23, 1898. Martha R. White, daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. H. A. White, was born at Ferryville, Wisconsin, November 29, 1878. To their union were born Oscar May 31, 1899; Robert, March 13, 1902, died in December, 1905; Kline, June 4, 1903; Ruben W., October 13, 1905, died February 2, 1936; Mabel, November 26, 1907; Gladys N., September 2, 1909; Royal, March 14, 1912; Clifford, March 4, 1914; Helen, February 17, 1917 and Quinten, September 18, 1922. Joseph M. Nelson migrated to Dakota Territory with his parents in 1881. The family devoted their time to farming until 1900 when they moved to Toronto, South Dakota where they engaged in business in conjunction with farming.

The death of Joseph M. Nelson occurred February 23, 1923 at the age of 47 years. Martha White - Nelson died April 3, 1941 at the age of 63 years. Their bodies lie at rest in the Toronto, South Dakota Cemetery beside their children who were also buried there.

OSCAR A. NELSON

* * * *

Oscar A. Nelson, son of Joseph M. and Martha Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota May 31, 1899. He served with the U. S. Armed Forces in World War Two. His home is at Brookings, South Dakota.

KLINE E. NELSON

* * * *

Kline E. Nelson, son of Joseph M. and Martha Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, June 4, 1903. United in marriage to Anita Rainy, April 17, 1938. Anita Rainy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Rainy, was born at Gann Valley, South Dakota, December 11, 1912. To their union was born a son,

Larry, July 9, 1941. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Pierre, South Dakota where he is a draftsman for the State Highway Department.

RUBEN W. NELSON

* * * *

Ruben W. Nelson, son of Joseph M. and Martha Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, October 13, 1905. He attended public school and later migrated to Ootso Lake, British Columbia, Canada, where he engaged in raising cattle and operated a tourist resort. He was severely injured in a hunting accident from which he died February 2, 1936.

MABEL J. NELSON

* * * *

Mabel Nelson, daughter of Joseph M. and Martha Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, November 26, 1907. United in marriage to Harry Jackson, June 24, 1929. Harry Jackson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Jackson, was born in Polk County, Iowa, October 4, 1904. To their union were born Rosemary, September 13, 1934 and Harvey L., December 31, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson reside at Madrid, Iowa, where they are merchants.

GLADYS NORMA NELSON

* * * *

Gladys N. Nelson, daughter of Joseph M. and Martha Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, September 2, 1909. United in marriage to Vernon B. Wagner, October 14, 1931. Vernon Wagner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wagner, was born at Watertown, South Dakota, July 26, 1906. To their union were born Vernon B., December 29, 1933; Norma M., May 22, 1936; Henry A., December 7, 1937; Joseph

R., September 1, 1939; Janet Ann, July 29, 1940; Kay Frances, January 3, 1942; Mary Lou, July 29, 1944; Roxanna Mae, February 7, 1946; Robert S., October 4, 1948 and Ronald, November 10, 1951. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner reside at Watertown, South Dakota where he is employed in the U. S. Postal Department.

NORMA MARIE WAGNER

* * * * *

Norma M. Wagner, daughter of Gladys N. and Vernon Wagner, was born at Watertown, South Dakota, May 22, 1936. United in marriage to Roy A. Degenhart, February 11, 1956. Roy A. Degenhart was born at Billings, Montana, April 20, 1933. Mr. and Mrs. Degenhart operate a dairy farm at Billings, Montana.

ROYAL J. NELSON

* * * *

Royal J. Nelson, son of Joseph M. and Martha Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, March 14, 1912. United in marriage to Lorette Rice, November 27, 1949. Lorette Rice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rice, was born at Watertown, South Dakota, November 27, 1925. To their union were born Royal, November 22, 1949 and Michael, April 13, 1950. Royal Nelson served with the armed forces of the U. S. throughout World War II. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Manhattan Beach, California.

CLIFFORD N. NELSON

* * * *

Clifford N. Nelson, son of Joseph M. and Martha R. Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, March 4, 1914. United in marriage to Edna King, November 20, 1942. Edna King, daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. Chester King, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, August 28, 1917. To their union were born Wayne C., November 19, 1946 and Ruth E., January 16, 1953. He served with the armed forces of the United States during World War II. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Toronto, South Dakota where he serves as Postmaster.

HELEN ODELL NELSON

* * * *

Helen Odell Nelson, daughter of Joseph M. and Martha R. Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, February 17, 1917. United in marriage to Ralph W. Murphy, November 27, 1937. Ralph W. Murphy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Murphy, was born at Moberly, Missouri, September 7, 1912. To their union were born John W., March 3, 1940; David R., February 16, 1949 and Martha Jo, March 4, 1951. Ralph W. Murphy entered the U. S. Navy and served in the South Pacific during World War II. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy reside at Berwyn, Illinois.

QUINTEN V. NELSON

* * * *

Quinten V. Nelson, son of Joseph M. and Martha R. Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, September 18, 1922. United in marriage to Elenore Trefz, June 26, 1943. Elenore Trefz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Trefz, was born at Tolstoy, South Dakota, March 20, 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Hawthorne, California.

CHAPTER FIVE

* *

ANNA SOPHA NELSON

Anna Sopha Nelson, daughter of Nels and Anna Rovang - Nelson, was born on the Rovang farm, Valdres, Norway, June 25, 1837. She migrated to America with her parents when thirteen years of age. Their first home in America was in Dane County, Wisconsin, near Madison, where they resided until 1852 when they moved to Iowa, locating in a frontier settlement in Winneshiek County near Decorah. After a stay of two years the family again migrated in search of free land, this time into the territory of Minnesota where large tracts of land were recently opened to settlement. Land open to pre-emption was found in the southern portion of Highland Township where she made her home with her parents until her marriage to Andrew K. Anderson, June 8, 1880. Andrew K. Anderson was born at Decorah, Iowa, February 24, 1858. To their union were born Clarence N., April 17, 1881; Agnes, May 18, 1883 and Alvin, August 27, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson moved to Decorah, Iowa and remained there until March of 1882 when they migrated in a covered wagon to Dakota Territory in search of free homestead land. They settled in Brookings County and pre-empted land in Oak Lake Township which had recently been opened for settlement.

On completion of the Rock Island Railroad into the territory, in 1884, the village of Toronto was platted and came into being, creating improved markets and trading places nearby. Prosperity was in

the land as the rich black soil produced bountiful crops year after year. Good farm homes soon replaced the homesteaders' shacks and shanties, new schools dotted the prairie while in the little villages schools and churches were built. This homestead was the home of the Anderson family for many years. Marred only by the death of the wife and mother, Anna Sopha Nelson - Anderson, March 18, 1892, at the age of 55 years. In 1901 the family moved to Toronto, South Dakota where Mr. Anderson devoted his time to real estate and live stock trade. Andrew K. Anderson died at his home April 8, 1929 at the age of 71 years. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson lie at rest in the Toronto, South Dakota Cemetery.

CLARENCE N. ANDERSON

* * *

Clarence N. Anderson, son of Anna S. and Andrew K. Anderson, was born at Decorah, Iowa, April 17, 1881. When a year old his parents moved to Oak Lake Township, Brookings County, South Dakota where he attended district school and grew to manhood. After graduating from Sioux Falls Business College, he secured a position with the Minnehaha National Bank of that city, which position he held until 1908, when he was appointed State Agent for the Germania Life Insurance Company with headquarters at Watertown. A year later he was transferred to Omaha, Nebraska with the additional territory of Nebraska added. On April 1, 1913, he accepted a position with the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company as General Agent for the states of Iowa and South Dakota, with general offices in Des Moines, Iowa. He was very successful in the insurance field and built up a big business

for his company. He was very active in the business circles of Des Moines and was highly regarded by friends and associates; a long time member of the Baptist Church and the Masonic Lodge, holding membership in all branches of the order. For recreation it was fishing, hunting and travel, having traveled extensively in foreign countries with his family. An automobile accident caused his untimely death near Algona, Iowa, May 18, 1935. His body lies at rest in the family lot in the Des Moines, Iowa cemetery.

Clarence N. Anderson was united in marriage to Marie Forseth, December 30, 1902. Marie Forseth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Forseth, was born at Hendricks, Minnesota, August 25, 1882. To their union were born three daughters, Lula, June 4, 1903; Adella, August 7, 1906 and Clarice, August 13, 1910.

LULA ANDERSON

* * * *

Lula Anderson, daughter of Clarence N. and Marie Anderson, was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, June 4, 1903. United in marriage to Charles Fenner Ives, December 28, 1942. Charles F. Ives, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ives, was born at Detroit, Michigan, November 26, 1898. Mr. Ives joined the armed forces of the United States and served as Captain in the M. A. G. in the South Pacific. Mr. and Mrs. Ives reside at Detroit, Michigan where he is an attorney.

ADELLA ANDERSON

* * * *

Adella Anderson, daughter of Clarence N. and Marie Anderson, was born in Soux Falls, South

Dakota, August 7, 1906. She resides at Evanston, Illinois with her mother and has a teaching position at the Northwestern University.

CLARICE ANDERSON

* * * *

Clarice B. Anderson, daughter of Clarence N. and Marie Anderson, was born at Omaha, Nebraska, August 13, 1910. United in marriage to John Horn Riley, June 11, 1938. John H. Riley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Halbert Riley, was born at Chicago, Illinois, June 13, 1909. He entered the armed forces of the United States in October, 1943 and served as Captain in the Marine Corps in South Africa. Mr. and Mrs. Riley reside at Wilmet, Illinois where Mr. Riley is an attorney. To their union were born Marie F., January 13, 1939 and John H., May 26, 1940.

AGNES ANDERSON

* * *

Agnes Anderson, daughter of Anna S. and Andrew K. Anderson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, May 18, 1883. United in marriage to Pete B. Emerson, December 14, 1904. Pete B. Emerson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Emerson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, May 31, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson followed the occupation of farming and later moved to Toronto where Mr. Emerson is employed by the school board. To their union were born Ames, June 13, 1906; Adelaide, August 17, 1909 and Clifford, May 24, 1914.

AMES EMERSON

* * * *

Ames Emerson, son of Agnes and Pete B. Emerson, was born on a farm at Toronto, South Dakota, June 13, 1906. United in marriage to Helen Roland,

August 25, 1937. Helen Roland, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Roland, was born at Shawnee, Oklahoma, January 3, 1908. To their union was born Jean M., May 2, 1943. Mr. Emerson is a merchant and they reside at Astoria, South Dakota.

ADELAIDE EMERSON

* * * *

Adelaide Emerson, daughter of Agnes and Pete B. Emerson, was born on a farm near Toronto, South Dakota, August 17, 1909. United in marriage to Claude Caldwell, June 29, 1931. Claude Caldwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Caldwell, was born on a farm at Bonilla, South Dakota, May 6, 1907. Politically, the Caldwells are Republicans and farm near Gary, South Dakota where he represents his county as commissioner.

CLIFFORD EMERSON

* * * *

Clifford Emerson, son of Agnes and Pete B. Emerson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, May 24, 1914. United in marriage to Dorothy McKibbon, December 27, 1936. Dorothy McKibbon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. McKibbon, was born at Brookings, South Dakota, November 15, 1918. To their union was born Patricia E., September 17, 1943. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson reside at Oelwein, Iowa, where Mr. Emerson is a manufacturer.

ALVIN ANDERSON

* * *

Alvin Anderson, son of Anna S. and Andrew K. Anderson, was born on a farm at Toronto, South Dakota, August 27, 1887. United in marriage to Emma Emerson, August 19, 1905. Emma Emerson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Emerson, was born

at Toronto, South Dakota, January 28, 1885. To their union were born Selma, November 18, 1906 and Melroy, October 16, 1909. Except for two years on a homestead in Meade County, South Dakota, in 1908 - 09, Alvin Anderson resided on a farm at Toronto, South Dakota until his death, November 9, 1913 at the age of 26 years. His body lies at rest in the Toronto Cemetery.

SELMA ANDERSON

* * * *

Selma Anderson, daughter of Alvin and Emma Anderson, was born on a farm near Devils Lake, North Dakota, November 18, 1906. United in marriage to Aaron Starliper, September 28, 1935. Aaron Starliper, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Adams, was born at Stanton, Nebraska, April 14, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Starliper reside at Rolla, Missouri where Mr. Starliper is a metalurgical engineer with a mining company.

MELROY ANDERSON

* * * *

Melroy Anderson, son of Alvin and Emma Anderson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, October 16, 1909. United in marriage to Aarella Easteppe, May 16, 1945. Aarella Easteppe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Easteppe, was born at Friley, Arkansas, August 28, 1920. To their union were born Andrew A., May 5, 1946 and Alan J., January 18, 1953. Mr. Anderson received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from the South Dakota School of Mines in 1932, holds a commission as Commander in the U. S. Naval Reserve, and is employed as an Electronic Engineer and Scientist G. S. 14 with the Federal Government. Mrs. Nelson gradu-

ated from the College of Idaho, Class of 1941, Bachelor of Arts Degree in Home Economics. She served as Ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve during World War II and has spent five years teaching home economics at the high school and junior college levels. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson reside at Benson, Arizona.

CHAPTER SIX

* *

NELS NELSON ROVANG

Nels Nelson Rovang, son of Nels and Anna Rovang - Olson, was born on Rovang Gaard near the little town of Vang, Valdres, Norway, July 19, 1839. He came to America with his parents in the early spring of 1850. Their first American home was in a little Scandinavian settlement of Cambridge, in Dane County, Wisconsin. After a stay of two years the family migrated west to the little settlement of Decorah, in Winneshiek County, Iowa, where they remained for two years. Their next move was into the Indian country of Minnesota Territory, taking squatters' claim to land in Highland Township, Wapashaw County. (Spelling changed to Wabasha.)

Nels Nelson - Rovang enlisted in the U. S. Army for Civil War service, September 5, 1864, and served as a private in Co. A, Third Minnesota Infantry. After the close of the war he was honorably discharged at Jacksonport, Arkansas, July 28, 1865. Following his discharge from service, Nels Nelson - Rovang returned to Wabasha County, and on November 29, 1865 was united in marriage to Ingeborg J. Dahlager. Ingeborg J. Dahlager was born in Norway, came to America with her parents who first settled in Iowa before coming to Minnesota. To their union were born Martin, May 29, 1866; Anna, January 5, 1868, died September 16, 1901; Ingeborg, April 10, 1869, died February 11, 1872; John N. April 18, 1871; Julia, January 5, 1873; Christian O., April 18, 1875; Emma, July 15, 1877, died July 24, 1897 and Otto, June 14, 1880.

On his return from war service, Nels Nelson-Rovang engaged in farming with his brother-in-law, Andrew Stavney, which was continued until early spring of 1868, when in company with his two brothers-in-law, Andrew Stavney and Hans Juelson and other friends formed a caravan of land seekers in a trek in covered wagons drawn by oxen and horses to the prairie timbered land of northwestern Minnesota where homestead lands were recently opened to settlement.

Nels Nelson-Rovang and his family were among the first settlers to reach Ottertail County and immediately filed pre-emption claim to 160 acres of land in section 13 of Tumili Township. This became their home for many years. The first home of the Rovangs was a one room dugout which was replaced the following year with a two room log house which served the family as a dwelling until 1880 when a large frame dwelling was constructed and it is in use today. On becoming acquainted with his neighbors Nels learned that there were several Nelson families among them and that two bore the given name of Nels. In order to prevent complications in mail and legal matters, Nels affixed to his surname the old family name of Rovang, and was thereafter known as Nels Nelson Rovang.

The first years of pioneering for the Rovang family was mixed with pleasure and hardship. A portion of the land within the borders of their homestead was prairie and was immediately broken up for wheat farming. Other portions were covered with heavy timber which required cutting and grubbing before it could be made into tillable land.

The value of farm produce was very low due to the long haul over difficult trails to the nearest

railroad market, which was Perham, forty miles to the northwest. Autumn and early winter days saw many farm wagons loaded heavy with wheat on the Perham Trail, drawn by horses or mules. Less properous settlers plodded along at a slower pace with oxen. A trip to market was a hardship and a once a year occasion which was looked forward to with interest and expectation by every member of the family. The wheat dollar was quickly exchanged for the many things needed in the home and on the land. Perhaps it included something beside tobacco for the father; yards of bright patterned calico for mother and trinkets for the children. Game and fish were plentiful in the new land and supplied the table much of the year. Deer was so plentiful that they were shot from the kitchen door. A large lake bordered the homeland and became known as Lake Rovang. Ottertail County had many beautiful lakes, and was considered one of the best fishing areas in the state.

A boom came to the new territory in 1879 with the building of the Great Northern Railroad through to Fargo, North Dakota, establishing the villages of Dalton, Fergus Falls and other villages which became the market and trading place for a large territory. The value of farm land increased materially with the establishment of nearby markets. Many fine homes and farm buildings were constructed throughout the territory with material made available to them. Many of them still stand as a monument to the progressiveness of the early pioneers. The Rovang homestead was enlarged by the purchase of an adjoining fifty-five acres, making the homestead consist of two hundred fifteen acres, which remained the home of the Rovangs until their

death, when the ownership passed to the eldest son Martin, and later to a grandson Joseph, who now resides on the homestead.

DEATH OF PARENTS

After a long and useful life the passing of the parents is recorded. The mother and wife, Ingeborg J. Dahlager - Rovang, June 8, 1912 at the age of 80 years. Nels Nelson Rovang, husband and father, February 26, 1917 at the age of 80 years. Their bodies lie at rest in the family lot in the Sarpsborg Church Cemetery near Dalton, Minnesota.

MARTIN ROVANG

* * *

Martin Rovang, son of Nels N. and Ingeborg Rovang, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, May 29, 1866. He migrated with his parents to Ottertail County, Minnesota. United in marriage to Anne Molaas, November 6, 1890. Anne Molaas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peder Molaas, was born in Winneshiek County, Iowa, December 31, 1871. To their union were born Noble, April 4, 1891; Palma, December 9, 1892; Joseph, January 30, 1895; Alvin, November 21, 1896, died June 4, 1904; Elmer, April 17, 1899; Ida, June 13, 1902, died April 17, 1905; Martha, February 16, 1904 and Emma, September 5, 1905.

Following their marriage the Rovangs farmed in Dane Prairie Township until 1912, at which time they purchased the Rovang homestead where they resided until 1934, when they discontinued farming and moved to Dalton to reside. Martin died July 7, 1935 at the age of 69 years. Anne Molaas - Rovang died July 14, 1945. Their bodies lie at rest in Park Dale Cemetery.

NOBLE ROVANG

* * * *

Noble Rovang, son of Martin and Anne Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, April 4, 1891. United in marriage to Helen M. Moe, October 9, 1917. Helen M. Moe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hakon Moe, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, December 16, 1896. To their union were born Helen Nora, June 3, 1918; Maynard H., April 19, 1922 and June Adeline, June 11, 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Coquilla, Oregon.

HELEN NORA ROVANG

* * * * *

Helen Nora Rovang, daughter of Noble and Helen Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, June 3, 1918. United in marriage to Carl O. Pfaffle, February 2, 1947. Carl O. Pfaffle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Pfaffle, was born at Salem, Oregon, January 1, 1904. To their union were born Carl F., November 21, 1951; Martin R., August 14, 1954 and a step-daughter, Nancy Lee Frye, January 8, 1940. The Pfaffles reside at Route 3, Tigard, Oregon.

MAYNARD HERBERT ROVANG

* * * * *

Maynard Herbert Rovang, son of Noble and Helen Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, April 19, 1922. United in marriage to Lucile Cusic, August 22, 1942. Lucile Cusic, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Cusic, was born at Coos River, Oregon, February 28, 1926. To their union were born Richard B., August 24, 1943; Maynard H. Rovang died at his home in Coos Bay, Oregon, December 12, 1949. His body lies at rest in Sunset Cemetery.

JUNE ADELINE ROVANG

* * * * *

June Adeline Rovang, daughter of Noble and Helen Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, June 11, 1924. United in marriage to James L. Blanton, November 28, 1942. James Blanton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gurlie Blanton, was born at Tellicoe Plaine, Tennessee, August 15, 1921. To their union were born James M., August 25, 1946 and Susan Terry, March 26, 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Blanton reside at Coquilla, Oregon.

PALMA MARIE ROVANG

* * * *

Palma Rovang, daughter of Martin and Anne Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, December 9, 1892. United in marriage to Arthur Erlandson, March 5, 1932. Arthur M. Erlandson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Erlandson, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, August 29, 1893. To their union were born Arthur M., September 16, 1933 and Irene Lucille, October 29, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Erlandson were farmers and resided on the farm homesteaded by his father in Aastad Township, Ottertail County, Minnesota. Arthur died May 9, 1948 at the age of 55 years. His body lies at rest in the Aastad Lutheran Cemetery near their home.

JOSEPH ROVANG

* * * *

Joseph Rovang, son of Martin and Anne Rovang, was born on the Rovang homestead near Dalton, Minnesota, January 30, 1895. United in marriage to Mary M. Johnson, December 8, 1926. Mary M. Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Johnson, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, February 22, 1906.

To their union were born two sons, Allen M., September 12, 1927 and Charles E., December 27, 1930. Joseph Rovang served with the U. S. Navy throughout World War I. They are farmers and reside on the land homesteaded by his grandparents in 1868.

ALLEN MARTIN ROVANG

* * * * *

Allen M. Rovang, son of Joseph and Mary M. Rovang, was born at Chicago, Illinois, September 12, 1927. United in marriage to Betty Lou Bratten, October 16, 1948. Betty Lou Bratten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Bratten, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, May 14, 1927. Allen M. Rovang enlisted in the U. S. Navy and served during World War II and the Korean Campaign.

The Rovangs are farmers and reside northwest of Dalton, Minnesota.

CHARLES EDWARD ROVANG

* * * * *

Charles E. Rovang, son of Joseph and Mary M. Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, December 27, 1930. United in marriage to Kathleen Connell, January 8, 1954. Kathleen Connell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Connell, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, May 4, 1935. Charles E. Rovang enlisted in the army and is serving with the Army of Occupation in Germany.

ELMER ROVANG

* * * *

Elmer Rovang, son of Martin and Anne Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, April 17, 1899. United in marriage to Elma Rubel, February 16, 1920. Elma Rubel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Rubel,

was born at Pocahontas, Iowa, July 11, 1901. To their union were born Thelma, May 20, 1921; Winnefred, September 5, 1922; Wesley, February 1, 1924; Arlene, January 20, 1926; Donald, January 31, 1928 and Lavonne, April 13, 1930. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Roslyn, South Dakota where he is employed as a creamery buttermaker.

THELMA ROVANG

* * * * *

Thelma Rovang, daughter of Elmer and Elma Rovang, was born at Bertha, Minnesota, May 20, 1921. United in marriage to Alfred Monshaugen, February 2, 1940. Alfred Monshaugen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Monshaugen, was born at Roslyn, South Dakota June 14, 1920. To their union were born Ramona, August 18, 1942; Wesley, November 20, 1943; Carol, April 17, 1945 and Lois, September 30, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Monshaugen are farmers and reside at Roslyn, South Dakota.

WINNEFRED ROVANG

* * * * *

Winnefred Rovang, daughter of Elmer and Elma Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, September 5, 1922. United in marriage to James Opsahl, January 16, 1941. James Opsahl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Opsahl, was born at Roslyn, South Dakota January 1, 1921. To their union were born Janelle, July 26, 1942; Jimmy, May 19, 1945 and Tommy, September 30, 1951. Mr. and Mrs. Opsahl reside at Roslyn, South Dakota and operate the Roslyn Cafe.

WESLEY ROVANG

* * * * *

Wesley Rovang, son of Elmer and Elma Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Feb-

ruary 1, 1924. United in marriage to Charlotte Anhalt, February 23, 1946. Charlotte Anhalt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Anhalt, was born at Cato, Wisconsin February 2, 1926. To their union were born Cynthia, December 5, 1947; Richard, June 30, 1949; Patricia, July 18, 1951; Benita, June 15, 1953 and Rebecca, January 5, 1955. Mr. Rovang served in the European and Pacific war theaters in World War II as pharmacist mate on the hospital ship U. S. S. Solace. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside in Aberdeen, South Dakota. He is co-owner in the Franklin Dairy.

ARLENE ROVANG

* * * * *

Arlene Rovang, daughter of Elmer and Elma Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, January 20, 1926. United in marriage to Vernie Carlson, June 29, 1948. Vernie Carlson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Carlson, was born at Roslyn, South Dakota, January 26, 1921. To their union was born a son, Roger, February 4, 1949. Mr. Carlson served with the U. S. Army in Europe throughout World War II. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson are farmers and reside at Roslyn, South Dakota.

DONALD ROVANG

* * * * *

Donald Rovang, son of Elmer and Elma Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, January 31, 1928. Enlisted in the U. S. Navy, February 5, 1941. Was accidentally drowned at Saipan, Mariana Islands in the South Pacific, July 16, 1946, while serving on the U. S. S. Boxer. His body lies at rest in the National Cemetery, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

LA VONNE ROVANG

* * * * *

La Vonne Rovang, daughter of Elmer and Elma Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, April 13, 1930. United in marriage to Marlyn Jensen, November 16, 1947. Marlyn Jensen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jensen, was born at Roslyn, South Dakota, July 18, 1926. To their union were born two daughters, Margarete, May 12, 1948 and Marlene, December 12, 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Jensen are farmers and reside at Roslyn, South Dakota.

MARTHA ROVANG

* * * *

Martha Rovang, daughter of Martin and Anne Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, February 16, 1904. United in marriage to Alvin Hanson, July 15, 1923. Alvin Hanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernt Hanson, was born at Lamberton, Minnesota, May 28, 1899. To their union were born Anita, July 16, 1924; Arlo, April 23, 1927 and LeRoy, March 7, 1929. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are farmers and reside at Dalton, Minnesota.

ANITA HANSON

* * * * *

Anita Hanson, daughter of Martha and Alvin Hanson, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, July 16, 1924. United in marriage to Archie Salvevold, April 21, 1946. Archie Salvevold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Salvevold, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, November 17, 1915. To their union were born David A., February 11, 1947; Gary L., November 23, 1948; Lowell D., June 16, 1951 and Ronda Kay, August 21, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Salvevold are farmers and reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

ARLO HANSON

* * * * *

Arlo Hanson, son of Martha and Alvin Hanson, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, April 23, 1927. United in marriage to LaVonne Swenson, July 11, 1948. LaVonne Swenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Swenson, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, November 26, 1928. To their union were born Lon K., July 13, 1949; Susan R., March 12, 1952 and Mark A., October 3, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are farmers and reside at Dalton, Minnesota.

LEROY HANSON

* * * * *

LeRoy Hanson, son of Martha and Alvin Hanson, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, March 7, 1929. United in marriage to Evelyn Grant, March 4, 1953. Evelyn Grant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Len Grant, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, November 26, 1933. To their union were born Gregory LeRoy, March 1, 1954 and Jeanne Diane, October 26, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

EMMA ROVANG

* * * *

Emma Rovang, daughter of Martin and Anne Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, September 5, 1905. United in marriage to Alvin Larson, September 5, 1928. Alvin Larson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis O. Larson, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, January 31, 1902. To their union were born Loraine, June 24, 1929; Marilyn, November 29, 1932; Elaine, June 30, 1935; Gene, August 24, 1937; Marjorie, March 1, 1941; Wesley, September 17, 1943 and Daryl, June 17, 1948. Mrs. Larson is a registered

nurse at the Lake Region Hospital, Fergus Falls, Minnesota. The Larsons reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

LORAINE LARSON

* * * * *

Loraine Larson, daughter of Emma and Alvin Larson, was born at Dalton, Minnesota June 24, 1929. United in marriage to Stanford Sweedberg, December 1, 1945. Stanford Sweedberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Sweedberg, was born at Battle Lake, Minnesota, March 27, 1920. To their union were born Sharon, June 6, 1946; Darlene, October 31, 1947; Joyce, February 9, 1949 and Steven, February 6, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Sweedberg reside at Fargo, North Dakota.

MARILYN LARSON

* * * * *

Marilyn Larson, daughter of Emma and Alvin Larson, was born at Dalton, Minnesota November 29, 1932. United in marriage to Thomas Johnson, May 10, 1952. Thomas Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Johnson, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, May 6, 1933. To their union were born Pamela, May 28, 1953 and Thomas D., March 13, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

ELAINE LARSON

* * * * *

Elaine Larson, daughter of Emma and Alvin Larson, was born at Dalton, Minnesota June 30, 1935. United in marriage to Donald Johnson, September 13, 1953. Donald Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Johnson, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota February 23, 1932. To their union were born Ricky, August 3, 1954 and died October 20, 1954 and Rondy

Don, September 21, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

ANNA ROVANG

* * *

Anna Rovang, daughter of Nels N. and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County Minnesota, January 5, 1868. She moved with her parents to Ottertail County, Minnesota when a child. She was united in marriage to Faul A. Stortroen, December 28, 1894. Paul A. Stortroen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anders Stortroen, was born at Martel, Wisconsin October 22, 1864. To their union were born Arthur, February 28, 1896 and Nobel, January 14, 1899. Anna Rovang - Stortroen died September 16, 1901 at the age of 33 years and Paul A. Stortroen died May 25, 1935. Their bodies lie at rest in the Bethlehern Cemetery, Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

ARTHUR STORTROEN

* * * *

Arthur Stortroen, son of Anna and Paul A. Stortroen, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, February 28, 1896. United in marriage to Bertha Garberg August 17, 1919. Bertha Garberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Garberg, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota March 10, 1899. To their union were born Paul C., June 20, 1922; Arthur B., December 12, 1926 and Beatrice Ann, August 2, 1928 and died September 9, 1928. Mr. and Mrs. Stortroen reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

PAUL C. STORTROEN

* * * * *

Paul C. Stortroen, son of Arthur and Bertha Stortroen, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota

June 20, 1922. United in marriage to Burnette Swatferger December 10, 1948. Burnette Swatferger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Swatferger, was born at Long Prairie, Minnesota December 11, 1923. To their union were born Paulette Ann, December 9, 1949; Allen C., April 19, 1951; Sarah C., July 29, 1952 and John P., September 15, 1953. Mr. and Mrs. Strotroen reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

ARTHUR B. STORTROEN

* * * * *

Arthur B. Stortroen, son of Arthur and Bertha Stortroen, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota December 12, 1926. United in marriage to Cathereen Nelson, September 10, 1949. Cathereen Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Nelson, was born at Chicago, Illinois January 21, 1931. To their union were born Michael A., January 5, 1951 and Mark T., October 19, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Stortroen reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

NOBEL STORTROEN

* * * *

Nobel Stortroen, son of Anna and Paul A. Stortroen, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Jan. 14, 1899. United in marriage to Ella Fjeld June 13, 1927. Ella Fjeld, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Fjeld, was born at Pelican Rapids, Minnesota July 10, 1906. To their union were born Dolores Jean, October 19, 1929 and Robert Nobel, February 22, 1940. Mr. Stortroen, a graduate from Tri-State Engineering College, Angela, Indiana in 1926, served with the Minnesota State Highway Department until 1950. The family now resides at Anaconda, Montana.

DOLORES JEAN STORTROEN

* * * * *

Dolores J. Stortroen, daughter of Nobel and Ella Stortroen, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, October 19, 1929. United in marriage to Larry Unise August 1, 1949. Larry Unise, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Unise, was born at Veblen, South Dakota, October 23, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Unise reside at Doran, Minnesota.

JOHN N. ROVANG

* * *

John N. Rovang, son of Nels N. and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, April 18, 1871. United in marriage to Sarah Stortroen, June 24, 1897. Sarah Stortroen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anders Stortroen, was born at Martel, Wisconsin, May 28, 1869. To their union were born Inge, June 21, 1898; Elmer, August 30, 1899 and Sadie, October 24, 1902. On completion of his schooling John N. Rovang became a watchmaker and in 1907 opened a jewelry and music store at Fergus Falls, Minnesota which he operated until his death. Sarah Stortroen - Rovang died October 2, 1932 at the age of 63 years. John N. Rovang was united in marriage to Emma Midthum, August 22, 1934. Emma Midthum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nils Midthum, was born at Flom, Minnesota, January 2, 1883. John N. Rovang died February 24, 1938 at the age of 66 years.

INGE ROVANG

* * * *

Inge Rovang, daughter of John N. and Sarah Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, June 21, 1898. United in marriage to Hjelmer Groenner,

June 2, 1938. Hjelmer Groenner, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Groenner, was born at Underwood, Minnesota, November 4, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Groenner reside at Underwood, Minnesota.

ELMER ROVANG

* * * *

Elmer Rovang, son of John N. and Sarah Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, August 30, 1899. United in marriage to Mabel Cherry, June 26, 1929. Mabel Cherry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Cherry, was born at Montevideo, Minnesota, May 1, 1902. To their union was born a daughter, Eline Janille, January 19, 1933. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Fergus Falls, Minnesota where he operates a jewelry and music store organized by his father, John N. Rovang in 1907.

SADIE ROVANG

* * * *

Sadie Rovang, daughter of John N. and Sarah Rovang, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, October 24, 1902. United in marriage to Rev. Bennie Maakelstad, July 23, 1933. Rev. Maakelstad was born at Norge, Virginia, November 19, 1900. Rev. and Mrs. Maakelstad reside at Gran-Fils-Gap, Texas, where he is a pastor of the local church.

JULIA ROVANG

* * *

Julia Rovang, daughter of Nels and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, January 5, 1873. United in marriage to Fred Borgen, June 24, 1896. Fred Borgen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Borgen, was born at Moorton, North Dakota, April 23, 1874. To their union were born Otto, May 28, 1897; Clarence, April 17, 1899; Earl, Octo-

ber 15, 1901; Thelma, July 12, 1903; Marie, June 30, 1905 and Inez, June 4, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Borgen were farmers and resided at Moorton, North Dakota until 1906, when they migrated to Weyburn, Sask., Canada, where they were automobile and implement dealers. They resided there until the fall of 1925, when they moved to Berkeley, California where they resided until the death of the wife and mother, Julia Rovang - Borgen, May 5, 1938 at the age of 65 years. Her body lies at rest in the Berkeley Cemetery.

OTTO BORGEN

* * * *

Otto Borgen, son of Julia and Fred Borgen, was born at Moorton, North Dakota, May 28, 1897. Died February 14, 1914 at the age of 17 years. His body lies at rest in the Weyburn, Sask., Cemetery.

CLARENCE BORGEN

* * * *

Clarence Borgen, son of Julia and Fred Borgen, was born at Moorton, North Dakota, April 17, 1899. United in marriage to Lucille Campbell, November 21, 1931. Lucile Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Campbell, was born at Woodland, California April 12, 1897. Mr. and Mrs. Borgen reside at Berkeley, California.

DR. EARL R. BORGEN

* * * *

Earl R. Borgen, son of Julia and Fred Borgen, was born at Moorton, North Dakota October 15, 1901. United in marriage to Leona McIntosh June 20, 1931. Leona McIntosh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. David McIntosh, was born July 10, 1901. To their union was born a daughter, Mary Lou, Sep-

tember 1, 1932. Dr. and Mrs. Borgen reside at San Jose, California.

THELMA BORGEN

* * * *

Thelma Borgen, daughter of Julia and Fred Borgen, was born at Moorton, North Dakota July 12, 1903. United in marriage to Theodore Geerneart, September 22, 1925. Theodore Geerneart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Geerneart, was born at Coalchester, England, June 17, 1901. To their union were born Bruce R., May 19, 1928 and Gerald, November 29, 1929. Thelma Borgen - Geerneart was later united in marriage to Ray H. Nagel, December 28, 1942. Ray H. Nagel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Nagel, was born at Meadows, Idaho July 30, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Nagel reside at Berkeley, California.

MARIE BORGEN

* * * *

Marie Borgen, daughter of Julia and Fred Borgen, was born at Moorton, North Dakota June 30, 1905. United in marriage to Ralph Wells, August 7, 1939. Ralph Wells, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wells, was born at Helena, Montana October 16, 1903. Marie Borgen - Wells was united in marriage to Robert C. Peterson March 17, 1951. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson reside at Orinda, California.

INEZ BORGEN

* * * *

Inez Borgen, daughter of Julia and Fred Borgen, was born at Weyburn, Sask., Canada, June 4, 1907. United in marriage to Byron Morrison, June 16, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison reside at Berkeley, California.

CHRISTIAN OLIVER ROVANG

* * *

Christian Oliver Rovang, son of Nels and Ingeborg Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota April 18, 1875. United in marriage to Adella Christopherson, June 15, 1898. Adella Christopherson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Christopherson, was born at Toronto South, Dakota December 6, 1877. To their union were born Clifford, October 13, 1899; Irving, January 25, 1902; Clarence, August 28, 1904; Leslie, April 6, 1907; Victor, November 15, 1909; Ila, December 27, 1913 and Wayne, July 12, 1917. The Rovangs resided at Dalton until 1905 at which time they migrated to Lake DeMay, Alberta, Canada, where they homesteaded land and where they resided until moving to Camrose. Christian O. Nelson died January 27, 1956 at the age of 81 years. His body lies at rest in Camrose, Alta., Cemetery.

CLIFFORD ROVANG

* * * *

Clifford Rovang, son of Christian O. and Adella Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, October 13, 1899. United in marriage to Myrtle Christopherson, June 7, 1924. Myrtle Christopherson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Christopherson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota January 22, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Camrose, Alberta, Canada, where Mr. Rovang is in the automobile business. To their union were born three children, one son and two daughters. Norma, February 3, 1930; Irene, February 22, 1934 and Donald, March 8, 1939. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Peace River, Alberta, Canada.

NORMA ROVANG

* * * * *

Norma Rovang, daughter of Clifford and Myrtle Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota February 3, 1930. She was united in marriage to Clifford Lien, April 7, 1950. Clifford Lien, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lien, was born at Camrose, Alta. To their union were born two children, Berry A., April 27, 1951 and Patsy Ann, May 25, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Lien reside at Peace River, Alberta, Canada.

IRENE ROVANG

* * * * *

Irene Rovang, daughter of Clifford and Myrtle Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota February 22, 1934. She was united in marriage to Lesley Wensley June 10, 1951. Lesley Wensley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Wensley of Camrose, Alta., Canada. To their union were born two children, Ronald L., January 24, 1952 and Lorraine C., January 5, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Wensley reside at Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

IRVING ROVANG

* * * *

Irving Rovang, son of Christian O. and Adella Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota January 25, 1902. United in marriage to Jenevieve Nesbit, June 10, 1925. Jenevieve Nesbit, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Nesbit, was born in the state of Washington, July 14, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Wenatchee, Washington, where Mr. Rovang is engaged in irrigation work. To their union were born two sons, Forest, September 5, 1931 and Keith, December 19, 1936.

KEITH ROVANG

* * * * *

Keith Rovang, son of Irving and Jenevieve Rovang, was born at Camrose, Alberta, Canada, December 19, 1936. United in marriage to Ellen R. Clark, October 22, 1949. Ellen R. Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence D. Clark, was born at Wenatchee, Washington March 15, 1930. To their union were born Rebecca E., September 27, 1953 and Mark, September 29, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Wenatchee, Washington.

CLARENCE ROVANG

* * * *

Clarence Rovang, son of Christian O. and Adella Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota August 28, 1904. United in marriage to Rose Coles, April 22, 1937. Rose Coles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Coles, was born in England, May 16, 1920. To their union was born a son David, September 28, 1937. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside in Vancouver, British Columbia.

LESLIE ROVANG

* * * *

Leslie Rovang, son of Christian O. and Adella Rovang, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, April 6, 1907. United in marriage to Letha Nesbit, November 29, 1931. Letha Nesbit, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Nesbit, was born in the state of Washington, December 12, 1912. To their union were born Donna, September 15, 1934 and Jerome, November 24, 1938. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside near Camrose, Alberta, Canada and are farmers.

VICTOR ROVANG

* * * *

Victor Rovang, son of Christian O. and Adella Rovang, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, November 15, 1909. Volunteered for foreign service with the Candian Army in September, 1942. Discharged November 1, 1944 after serving with the Canadian Army during World War II. He resides in Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

ILA ROVANG

* * * *

Ila Rovang, daughter of Christian O. and Adella Rovang, was born at Camrose, Alberta, Canada, December 27, 1913. United in marriage to Norman Creig, December 27, 1932. Norman Creig was born in Scotland, March 26, 1907. To their union were born Dennis, November 9, 1933; June, June 27, 1937; Constance M., December 31, 1941; Heathera, June 6, 1946; Karen L., March 23, 1950 and Darrel N., December 6, 1955. Following Mr. Creig's return from Europe, where he served with the Canadian Army in the Second World War, the family took up residence at Chillawack, British Columbia.

WAYNE ROVANG

* * * *

Wayne Rovang, son of Christian O. and Adella Rovang, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, July 12, 1917. United in marriage to Therese Finlin, May 23, 1941. Therese Finlin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Finlin, was born in Kitscoty, Alberta, Canada, September 2, 1941. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang reside at Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

OTTO ROVANG

* * *

Otto Rovang, son of Nels and Ingeberg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, June 14, 1880. United in marriage to Ingeborg Erickson, June 26, 1912. Ingeborg Erickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Erickson, was born in Grant County, Minnesota, September 17, 1885. To their union were born Irene R., April 17, 1913; Marie E., May 2, 1915; Neil R., December 25, 1916; Harold H., January 10, 1919 and Warren O., May 1, 1922. Ingeborg Erickson died December 26, 1929. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in Sarpsborg Church Cemetery near Dalton. Otto Rovang was united in marriage to Emma Erickson, September 7, 1932. Emma Erickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Erickson, was born March 28, 1892, in Grant County, Minnesota. To their union was born a daughter, Ellen M., April 18, 1934. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang are retired farmers and reside on a portion of the Andrew Stavney homestead bordering Dalton, Minnesota.

IRENE R. ROVANG

* * * *

Irene R. Rovang, daughter of Otto and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, April 17, 1913. United in marriage to Mentor Bothun, June 28, 1934. Mentor Bothun, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bothun, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, October 15, 1908. To their union were born Marlys I., May 29, 1938; Larry, August 19, 1944 and Karen, August 28, 1952. Mr. Bothun is an automobile dealer at Starbuck, Minnesota.

MARIE ROVANG

* * * *

Marie E. Rovang, daughter of Otto and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, May 2, 1915. United in marriage to Orvin Melaas, April 18, 1935. Orvin Melaas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Melaas, was born in Ottertail, County, Minnesota, November 18, 1905. To their union were born Donald, March 24, 1936; Dennis, February 23, 1937; Jo Ann, July 20, 1938; Barbara, July 20, 1943 and Marjorie, November 2, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Melaas reside on a farm in Grant County, Minnesota.

NEIL R. ROVANG

* * * *

Neil R. Rovang, son of Otto and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, December 25, 1916. United in marriage to Mildred Erickson, August 28, 1938. Mildred Erickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Erickson, was born in Ottertail County, Minnesota, March 31, 1921. To their union was born a son, Wayne J., March 4, 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Rovang were farmers and resided near Dalton, Minnesota until his death November 9, 1947. His body lies at rest in Sarpsborg Church Cemetery near Dalton.

HAROLD A. ROVANG

* * * *

Harold A. Rovang, son of Otto and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, January 10, 1919. United in marriage to Norma Foss, June 30, 1945. Norma Foss, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Foss, was born at Elbow Lake, Minnesota, October 9, 1921. To their union were born Judy D., June 27, 1946 and Larry J., November 1,

1949. Mr. Rovang enlisted in the armed forces of the United States January 21, 1941 and became attached to the Second Armored Division and served throughout the European Campaign in World War II. Mr. Rovang was discharged from service in June, 1945. The family has since resided at Fergus Falls, Minnesota where Mr. Rovang is in the insurance business.

WARREN O. ROVANG

* * * *

Warren O. Rovang, son of Otto and Ingeborg Rovang, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, May 1, 1922. United in marriage to Ruth Araskog, October 6, 1943. Ruth Araskog, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Araskog, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, September 17, 1922. To their union by adoption, a son, John W., December 31, 1949. Mr. Rovang enlisted in the Coast Guard in September, 1945, serving with them until his discharge October 18, 1945. The family resides at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he is in the clothing business.

ELLEN M. ROVANG

* * * *

Ellen M. Rovang, daughter of Otto and Emma Rovang, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, April 18, 1934. United in marriage to Albert Hexum, June 16, 1956. Albert Hexum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hexum, Sr., was born at Carlisle, Minnesota, January 18, 1927. To their union was born a son, Kurt Alan, March 20, 1957. Mr. and Mrs. Hexum are farmers and reside at Carlisle, Minnesota.

CHAPTER SEVEN

ROVANG CHRISTIAN NELSON

* *

Rovang Christian Nelson, son of Nels and Anna Rovang - Nelson, was born on the Rovang Gaard, Valdres, Norway, July 3, 1841. He migrated to America with his parents in 1850, and lived with them on their pre-empted homestead in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota Territory until he enlisted in Company C, Tenth Minnesota Infantry, August 15, 1862 for service in the war between the states. His regiment was first stationed at a frontier post for Indian service and participated against the Indians on the plains of Minnesota and Dakota Territory on July 24, 26, and 28, 1863. In October his regiment was transferred by Mississippi steamer to St. Louis, Missouri and from there to Columbia, Kentucky in April, 1864. In June the regiment was ordered in a forced march to Memphis, Tennessee and was attached to the 16th Army Corps.

The 16th Army participated in the bloody battle of Tupelo on July 13, 1864 and the Oxford expedition in August in the pursuit of General Price and his retreating army from Arkansas to Cape Girardeau, Missouri. From this point the army was transported by Mississippi steamer to Jefferson City, Missouri, then north to the Kansas State line and back to St. Louis, Missouri. The 16th Army also participated in the battle at Nashville, Tennessee, which took place on December 15 - 16, 1864.

It was the last day of this engagement that an uncle of the writer, Rovang Christian Nelson, met

his death. The Union losses in this battle were 400 killed and 1,740 missing. The Confederates loss was placed at 4,460 missing. Walter McNallan, also of Wabasha County, a member of the same company, made the following statement on his return from the war: "I fought in many engagements with Christ, the last being the battle of Nashville. I was at his side and saw him fall with a mortal wound from which he died in a few minutes. We buried him on the battlefield with others who fell during the siege. Christ was a good soldier." The body of Private Rovang Christian Nelson, Company C., Tenth Minnesota Infantry, lies at rest in grave Number 2455, Section E., National Cemetery, Nashville, Tennessee. Nearby monuments mark the last resting place of both the Blue and the Gray.

CHAPTER EIGHT

* *

SARAH NELSON

Sarah Nelson, daughter of Nels and Anna Rovang - Olson, was born on the Rovang farm, Valdres, Norway, March 10, 1844. At the age of six years she came to America with her parents. They first settled in Dane County, Wisconsin, moving two years later to Decorah, Iowa. After a stay of two years in Decorah, they migrated to new homestead lands in southeastern Minnesota moving into Highland Township, Wabasha County before the government survey. Sarah Nelson remained at home with her parents until she married Andrew Stavney, November 29, 1865. Andrew Stavney was born in Norway in 1831. In the early spring of 1868, Mr. and Mrs. Stavney, with their children, joined a caravan of homestead seekers who were traveling overland in a covered wagon, taking with them a few cattle, chickens and a few pieces of household goods. Their destination was Ottertail County in the northwestern portion of Minnesota where land was being opened up for homestead settlement. After a journey over unbroken trails, they reached their destination and moved onto a quarter section of land in Tumili Township on which they filed a pre-emption claim and which became their home for many years. The construction of a home and shelter for their stock and the preparation of the land for crops required many long hard days of work for many years.

Their first home was a dugout in the timbered sidehill. The upper walls were built of strips of sod turned over by the coultered breaking plow from the nearby patch of prairie. Loose dirt was used as mortar to fill in between the strips of sod to make a tight wall. The beams and rafters were cut from the timber and supported a roof laid in a way that it shed most of the rain that fell on it. A small window and a door were set in the thick wall to provide light and entrance. The floor was of earth which became hard from constant use. A house of logs was built the following year and later a frame house was built in keeping with the development of the community.

The building of the railroad into the territory shortened their haul to market and brought a marked improvement to the community.

In the spring of 1905, the Stavney family again moved to new homestead lands. This time by railroad to western Canada, locating in the Haylake District of Alberta where they homesteaded on land and resided until they moved to Seattle, Washington two years later, where they resided until their deaths.

To their union were born seven children, four sons and three daughters: Nicolie, February 1, 1866; Ole, March 3, 1868; Annie, May 7, 1871; John A., July 2, 1872; Mary Carolyn, September 3, 1876; Anton, July 29, 1881 and Gertie, March 17, 1884.

DEATH OF PARENTS

The death of the parents occurred after a long and useful life. Sarah Nelson - Stavney died July 9, 1905, at the age of 61 years and Andrew Stavney

died May 24, 1917 at the age of 86 years. Their bodies lie at rest in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Seattle, Washington.

NICOLIE STAVNEY

* * *

Nicolie Stavney, son of Sarah and Andrew Stavney, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, February 1, 1866. United in marriage to Olena Dahl, May 28, 1885. Olena Dahl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Borre Dahl, was born at Hasper, Iowa, January 27, 1868. To their union was born a daughter, Keia, June 22, 1886, died November 29, 1889, at the age of three years. Nicolie died June 19, 1889 at the age of 28 years. The bodies of Nicolie and daughter, Keia, lie at rest in the St. Olaf Cemetery, Dalton, Minnesota.

OLE STAVNEY

* * *

Ole Stavney, son of Sarah and Andrew Stavney, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, March 3, 1868. United in marriage to Gunhild Reistad, March 18, 1893. Gunhild Reistad was born in Norway. To their union was born a daughter, Selma M., April 4, 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Stavney were farmers and resided at Dalton, Minnesota. Ole Stavney died August 9, 1896 and Gunhild Reistad - Stavney died July, 1896. Their bodies lie at rest in Park Dale Cemetery near Dalton, Minnesota.

SELMA M. STAVNEY

* * * *

Selma M. Stavney, daughter of Ole and Gunhild Stavney, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, April 4, 1894. She was united in marriage to Homer A. Stahl on October 2, 1918. Homer A. Stahl, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Stahl, was born at Bayfield,

Wisconsin, December 6, 1882. To their union were born Eugene M., March 15, 1920 and Homer J., October 2, 1926. Mr. and Mrs. Stahl resided at Portland, Oregon where Mr. Stahl died October 13, 1940. Mrs. Stahl resides at Portland, Oregon.

EUGENE M. STAHL

* * * * *

Eugene M. Stahl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Selma M. and Homer A. Stahl, was born at Portland, Oregon, March 15, 1920. United in marriage to Donna L. Langford, March 17, 1952. Donna L. Langford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Langford, was born at Stockton, California, March 16, 1923. Eugene M. Stahl entered the armed forces of the United States in 1941 and was commissioned First Lt. in the Air Corps and served throughout World War II. Mr. and Mrs. Stahl reside at Carmichael, California.

HOMER J. STAHL

* * * * *

Homer J. Stahl, son of Selma M. and Homer A. Stahl, was born at Portland, Oregon, October 2, 1926. Entered the armed forces of the United States September, 1948 and served in the Navy throughout World War II. He resides at Santa Monica, California.

ANNIE STAVNEY

* * *

Annie Stavney, daughter of Sarah and Andrew Stavney, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, May 7, 1871. United in marriage to O. N. Ulleland, September 15, 1900. O. N. Ulleland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nils Ulleland, was born in Norway, April 21, 1868. To their union were born Sophia, July, 1901 and died October 19, 1909; Amanda, June, 1904 and died

May 19, 1905; Neddie, November, 1908 and died November 15, 1918, and Ruth, March 12, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Ulleland resided in Seattle where Annie Stavney - Ulleland died June 1, 1925, at the age of 54 years. O. N. Ulleland died November 6, 1945 at the age of 77 years. Their bodies lie at rest in the Seattle, Washington, Cemetery.

RUTH ULLELAND

* * * *

Ruth Ulleland, daughter of Annie and O. N. Ulleland, was born in Seattle, Washington, March 12, 1911. Ruth Ulleland is a registered nurse and resides at Long Beach, California.

REV. JOHN ANDREW STAVNEY

* * *

Rev. John Andrew Stavney, son of Sarah and Andrew Stavney, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, July 2, 1872. United in marriage to Mina R. Rudd, July 2, 1903. Mina R. Rudd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Rudd, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, April 26, 1874. To their union were born Waldemar, May 1, 1904; Valborg, February 26, 1906; Luthard, December 3, 1907; Gerhard, April 10, 1910; Dagna, October 28, 1912 and Evelyn, March 25, 1915. Some of the Lutheran churches served by the Rev. Stavney were: Ferry Point, Alberta; Vashon, Kent, Richmond Beach and Seattle, in Washington, and also Portland, Oregon. John A. Stavney died January 31, 1943 at the age of 71 years. Mina R. Rudd - Stavney, his wife, died April 30, 1935 at the age of 61 years. Their bodies lie at rest in Washelli Evergreen Cemetery, Seattle, Washington.

WALDEMAR STAVNEY

* * * *

Waldemar Stavney, son of Rev. John and Mina Stavney, was born at Ferry Point, Alberta, Canada, May 1, 1904. United in marriage to Vivian Berglund, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Berglund, August 23, 1935. Vivian Berglund was born at Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, October 13, 1907. To their union was born Carolyn, November 27, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Stavney reside at Seattle, Washington.

VALBORG STAVNEY

* * * *

Valborg Stavney, daughter of Rev. John A. and Mina Stavney, was born in Ferry Point, Alberta, Canada, February 26, 1906. United in marriage to Sigvald Loberg, November 28, 1946. Sigvald Loberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Loberg, was born in Norway, October 10, 1899. Mr. Loberg had the following children by a former marriage: Paul, born March 12, 1935; Wesley, August 17, 1936 and Sidney, November 11, 1943. Mr. and Mrs. Loberg reside at Seattle, Washington.

LUTHARD STAVNEY

* * * *

Luthard Stavney, son of Rev. John A. and Mina Stavney, was born at Ferry Point, Alberta, Canada, December 3, 1907. United in marriage to Borghild Sorenson, December 25, 1930. Borghild Sorenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sigvald Sorenson, was born March 9, 1909. To their union were born Joyce E., July 24, 1932 and Luthard Stanton, August 13, 1933. Mr. and Mrs. Stavney reside at Seattle, Washington.

JOYCE EVELYN STAVNEY

* * * * *

Joyce Evelyn Stavney, daughter of Luthard and Borghild Stavney, was born in Seattle, Washington, July 24, 1932. United in marriage to Kristian Frosig, August 30, 1952. Kristian Frosig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Frosig was born in Denmark on December 20, 1927. To this union were born Kristian Eugene, June 17, 1953, died July 11, 1953 and Kathryn Joyce, December, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Frosig reside at Seattle, Washington.

LUTHARD STANTON STAVNEY

* * * * *

Luthard Stanton Stavney, son of Luthard and Borghild Stavney, was born in Seattle, Washington, August 13, 1933. He is studying at the University of Washington to become a doctor in medicine.

GERHARD STAVNEY

* * * *

Gerhard Stavney, son of Rev. John A. and Nina Stavney, was born at Vashon, Washington, April 10, 1910. United in marriage to Sigrid Hystad, January 9, 1938. Sigrid Hystad, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thome Hystad, was born at Velva, North Dakota, August 13, 1913. To their union were born Gerhard John, November 1, 1938; Sigrid Mina, December 13, 1939 and Elizabeth Nell, March 31, 1943. Mr. and Mrs. Stavney reside at Portland, Oregon.

DAGNA STAVNEY

* * * *

Dagna Stavney, daughter of Rev. John and Mina Stavney, was born at Portland, Oregon, October 28, 1912. United in marriage to A. Howard Wilkie, April 11, 1942. A Howard Wilkie, son of

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar C. Wilkie, was born at Ashton, Idaho, October 5, 1916. To their union was born a son, Stephen C., May 22, 1945. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkie reside at Seattle, Washington.

EVELYN STAVNEY

* * * *

Evelyn Stavney, daughter of Rev. John and Mina Stavney, was born in Portland, Oregon, March 25, 1915. United in marriage to Woodrow Willson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wheeler Willson, June 29, 1940. Woodrow Willson was born at Little Falls, Minnesota, May 19, 1915. To their union were born John Woodrow, May 9, 1943, Gerald Alan, October 31, 1944; Ronald Wheeler, September 17, 1947 and Karen Nina, October 26, 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Willson reside at Bremerton, Washington.

MARY CAROLYN STAVNEY

* * *

Mary Carolyn Stavney, daughter of Sarah and Andrew Stavney, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota, September 3, 1876. United in marriage to Rev. B. A. Borrevik, June 3, 1897. Rev. Borrevik, son of Mr. and Mrs. Berg B. Borrevik, was born in Norway, April 16, 1868. To their union were born Berge A., January 16, 1899; Selma, May 7, 1901; Alexander, October 18, 1903; Olaf N., June 3, 1906; Esther, August 11, 1908 and Ruth, July 8, 1912. Mary C. Stavney Borrevik died at her home at Silverton, Oregon, April 18, 1917, where her body lies at rest in the Silverton, Oregon Cemetery. She was 41 years of age. Rev. B. A. Borrevik was united in marriage to Anna Vasenden, and resided at Everett, Washington, where he died October 19, 1948, at the age of 80 years. His body lies at rest in the Everett Ceme-

tery. The Rev. Borrevik served as pastor of the Lutheran churches at Bella Cola, B. C., Silverton, Oregon, Everett and Seattle, Washington. He organized and served the Bethany church for a number of years.

BERGE ANDREAS BORREVIK

* * * *

Berge Andreas Borrevik, son of Mary C. and Rev. B. A. Borrevik, was born at Seattle, Washington, January 16, 1899. United in marriage to Mathilda A. Faukald, November 12, 1920. Mathilda Faukald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martinus Martin Faulkald, was born at Hanneford, North Dakota, August 14, 1901. To their union were born Wallace B., November 14, 1921 and Barbara, January 11, 1927. Mathilda A. Faukald Borrevik died January 8, 1928, at the age of 27 years. Her body lies at rest in the Reedsport, Oregon Cemetery. Berge A. Borrevik was united in marriage to Clara Emigh, August 4, 1929. Clara Emigh, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ward Emigh, was born at Wala Wala, Washington, October 4, 1905. To their union was born Berge A., February 19, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Borrevik reside at Reedsport, Oregon.

WALLACE B. BORREVIK

* * * * *

Wallace B. Borrevik, son of Berge A. and Mathilda Borrevik, was born at Silverton, Oregon, November 14, 1921. United in marriage to Betty J. Martin, May 7, 1946. Betty J. Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles I. Martin, was born at Georgetown, California, February 5, 1925. To their union were born Wallace B., April 1, 1947; Martin A., July 22,

1948; Kenneth I., October 24, 1949 and Roland K., February 19, 1953. Mr. and Mrs. Borrevik reside at North Bend, Oregon.

BARBARA LAMAR BORREVIK

* * * * *

Barbara Lamar Borrevik, daughter of Berge A. and Matilda Borrevik, was born at Reedsport, Oregon, January 11, 1927. United in marriage to Roger C. Wiley, August 14, 1949. Roger C. Wiley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd J. Wiley, was born at Bremerton, Washington, February 4, 1924. To their union were born Roger C., May 30, 1950; Bradford J., February 11, 1953 and Gloria J., July 6, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Wiley reside at Springfield, Oregon.

SELMA BORREVIK

* * * *

Selma Borrevik, daughter of Mary C. and Rev. B. A. Borrevik, was born at Seattle, Washington, May 7, 1901. United in marriage to Albert Wassmuth, April 6, 1922. Albert Wassmuth was born in Texas, August 2, 1898. To their union was born Betty M., January 28, 1923. Selma Borrevik Wassmuth was united in marriage to Norman Smiley, December 6, 1946. Norman Smiley died June 26, 1952. Mrs. Smiley resides at Portland, Oregon.

BETTY M. WASSMUTH

* * * * *

Betty M. Wassmuth, daughter of Selma and Albert Wassmuth, was born January 28, 1923 at Birkenfeld, Oregon. United in marriage to Vernon Kjergaard on October 10, 1947. Mr. and Mrs. Kjergaard reside at Portland, Oregon.

REV. ALEXANDER BORREVIK

* * * *

Rev. Alexander Borrevik, son of Mary C. and Rev. B. A. Borrevik, was born at Seattle, Washington, October 18, 1903. United in marriage to Aleda Brusven, June 6, 1933. Aleda Brusven, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Brusven, was born at Rugby, North Dakota, April 10, 1911. To their union were born Kathleen, January 26, 1935 and Jerome A., July 4, 1940. Rev. Borrevik served as pastor of Lutheran churches at Bisbee, North Dakota, Madelia, Minnesota and Astoria, Oregon. Rev. and Mrs. Borrevik now reside at Duluth, Minnesota.

OLAF NICOLAI BORREVIK

* * * *

Olaf Nicolai Borrevik, son of Mary C. and Rev. B. A. Borrevik, was born at Seattle, Washington, June 3, 1906. United in marriage to Louise McAbee, July 3, 1933. Louise McAbee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis C. McAbee, was born at Port Angeles, Washington, August 28, 1914. To their union were born Janet M., July 14, 1940; Judith A., May 13, 1943 and Jane K., August 15, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Borrevik reside at Seattle, Washington.

ESTHER BORREVIK

* * * *

Esther Borrevik, daughter of Mary C. and Rev. B. A. Borrevik, was born at Everett, Washington, August 11, 1908. United in marriage to Theodore C. Weston, June 15, 1940. Theodore C. Weston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Weston, was born at Shelton, Washington, November 27, 1905. To their union were born Lael Ann, April 30, 1943; Frederick T., September 2, 1945 and Robert J., May 11, 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Weston reside at Portland, Oregon.

RUTH BORREVIK

* * * *

Ruth Borrevik, daughter of Mary C. and Rev. B. A. Borrevik, was born at Silverton, Oregon, July 8, 1912. United in marriage to Maurice V. Ranger, June 29, 1935. Maurice V. Ranger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Ranger, was born at Eckford, Michigan, March 12, 1908. To their union were born Maureen A., September 26, 1937 and David C., July 10, 1939. Ruth Borrevik - Ranger died in 1949 at the age of 27 years. Mr. and Mrs. Ranger resided near the Coulee Dam, where Mr. Ranger is employed.

ANTON S. STAVNEY

* * *

Anton S. Stavney, son of Sarah and Andrew Stavney, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, July 29, 1881. United in marriage to Anna Iverson, June 28, 1901. Anna Iverson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Iverson, was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, August 16, 1880. To their union were born Arthur, October 20, 1902; Clara, August 27, 1903; Raymond, April 7, 1905; Amanda, December 15, 1906 and Vernon, October 19. 1908. Amanda died October 26, 1908, at the age of two years. Mr. and Mrs. Stavney migrated to Alberta, Canada in 1903 and homesteaded land in the Bittern Lake district, where they made their home for many years. Anna Iverson - Stavney died April 3, 1927, and Anton, March 18, 1951. Their bodies lie at rest in the family lot in the Bittern Lake Cemetery near Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

ARTHUR STAVNEY

* * * *

Arthur Stavney, son of Anton and Anna Stavney, was born on a farm near Dalton, Minnesota,

October 20, 1902. Mr. Stavney follows the occupation of automobile mechanic and resides at Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada.

CLARA STAVNEY

* * * *

Clara Stavney, daughter of Anton and Anna Stavney, was born at Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada, August 27, 1903. United in marriage to Joseph Miller, July 10, 1944. Joseph Miller, son of Charles Miller, was born in Long Island, New York, Nov. 7, 1900. Joseph Miller had the following children: Donald, born March 17, 1927; Jane, July 25, 1930 and Marilyn, August 30, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Miller reside near Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada.

RAYMOND STAVNEY

* * * *

Raymond Stavney, son of Anton and Anna Stavney, was born on a farm near Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada, April 7, 1905. United in marriage to Bertha Grue, August 4, 1938. Bertha Grue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Grue, was born at Hay Lake, Alberta, Canada, September 14, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Stavney are farmers near Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada.

AMANDA STAVNEY

* * * *

Amanda Stavney, daughter of Anton and Anna Stavney, was born on a farm near Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada, December 15, 1906. She died October 26, 1908, at the age of two years. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in the Bittern Lake Cemetery near Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

VERNON STAVNEY

* * * *

Vernon Stavney, son of Anton and Anna Stavney, was born on a farm near Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada, October 19, 1908. United in marriage to May Hamilton, June 20, 1934. May Hamilton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Hamilton, was born at Bittern Lake, Alberta, Canada, May 2, 1910. To their union was born a daughter, Lorraine, April 26, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Stavney reside at Bittern Lake, near Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

GERTIE SOPHIE STAVNEY

* * *

Gertie Sophia Stavney, daughter of Sarah and Andrew Stavney, was born at Dalton, Minnesota, March 17, 1884. She was united in marriage to August Johansen September 5, 1906. August Johansen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Johansen, was born in Bergen, Norway, July 15, 1874. To their union were born Stella J., January 9, 1908; Barton A., November 17, 1909; Norma, May 19, 1912; Ella H., September 18, 1914; Laura, July 28, 1916; Amy B. June 8, 1919; Marie H., December 2, 1921 and Ruby, May 5, 1924. August Johansen, husband and father, died April 29, 1948 after a long and useful life at the age of 74 years. His body lies at rest in the family lot in Vashon Cemetery. Mrs. Johansen resides at Vashon, Washington.

STELLA J. JOHANSEN

* * * *

Stella J. Johansen, daughter of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon Island, Washington, January 9, 1908. United in marriage to Arthur H. Anderson, January 4, 1941. Arthur H.

Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson, was born at Bemidji, Minnesota, October 26, 1899. To their union were born Ronald, September 22, 1941 and Roy A., September 16, 1944. Ronald died the day of his birth. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson reside at Seattle, Washington.

BARTON ARTHUR JOHANSEN

* * * *

Barton A. Johansen, son of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon, Washington, November 17, 1909. United in marriage to Bertha Sorenson, August 10, 1935. Bertha Sorenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sigvald Sorenson, was born at Astoria, Oregon, July 3, 1913. To their union were born Marilyn L., June 16, 1936; Phillip A., February 12, 1941; Stephen, March 2, 1952 and Sandra Louise, July 5, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Johansen reside on Vashon Island, Washington.

NORMA JOHANSEN

* * * *

Norma Johansen, daughter of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon, Washington, May 19, 1912. United in marriage to Rev. Ernest J. Raaum, July 4, 1936. Ernest J. Raaum, son of Rev. and Mrs. O. I. Raaum, was born at Perham, Minnesota, May 13, 1907. To their union was born a daughter, Anna L., June 8, 1937. Some of the Lutheran churches served by Rev. Raaum were Bella Cola, British Columbia; Portland, Oregon and Newfolden, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Raaum have adopted the following children: John, born June 24, 1939 and Elizabeth Joyce, born May 24, 1949. Rev. and Mrs. Raaum now serve a congregation at Kirkland, Washington.

ELLA HILDA JOHANSEN

* * * *

Ella Hilda Johansen, daughter of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon, Washington, September 18, 1914. United in marriage to Gustave A. Jacobson, September 14, 1940. Gustave Jacobson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John V. Jacobson, was born at Stanley, North Dakota, August 3, 1915. To their union were born Sharon E., June 20, 1941; James G., July 11, 1944; Joyce M., June 10, 1948 and Darrell, February 21, 1951. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson are in missionary work in Swaziland, South Africa.

LAURA JOHANSEN

* * * *

Laura Johansen, daughter of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon, Washington, July 28, 1916. United in marriage to Clifford E. Andersen, April 29, 1939. Clifford E. Andersen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Andersen, was born at Seattle, Washington, June 8, 1917. To their union were born twin daughters, Carolyn, July 26 and Sherrilyn, July 27, 1941, and Janis, October 29, 1945. Mr. and Mrs. Andersen reside at Vashon, Washington.

AMY BETSY JOHANSEN

* * * *

Amy B. Johansen, daughter of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon, Washington, June 8, 1919. United in marriage to William C. Boyd, November 3, 1945. William C. Boyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Boyd, was born in Texas, January 13, 1922. To their union were born Nancy H., August 11, 1947; William K., June 3, 1949; Charlene, October 19, 1952 and Barbara Jean, December 5, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd reside at Seattle, Washington.

MARIE HAZEL JOHANSEN

* * * *

Marie H. Johansen, daughter of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon, Washington, December 2, 1921. United in marriage to Arthur R. Sovold, August 22, 1945. Arthur R. Sovold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Sovold, was born in Norway, March 11, 1920. To their union were born Cathleen M., May 22, 1947; Susan E., September 8, 1950; Kenneth R., May 24, 1952 and Pamela J., November 28, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Sovold reside at Seattle, Washington.

RUBY JOHANSEN

* * * *

Ruby Johansen, daughter of Gertie and August Johansen, was born at Vashon, Washington, May 5, 1924. Ruby Johansen is a registered nurse and resides at Seattle, Washington.

CHAPTER NINE

JANE NELSON

* *

Jane Nelson, daughter of Nels and Anna Rovang - Olson, was born on the Rovang Gaard, Valdres, Norway, March 24, 1846. She came to America with her parents at the age of four years. Her first two years in America were spent in Dane County, Wisconsin. Her parents moved to Decorah, Iowa in 1852 and to Minnesota Territory in the early spring of 1854, settling on farm land in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota where they pre-empted land and where she resided until her marriage to Hans Juelson, June 26, 1865. Hans Juelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Juel Helgerson, was born in Valdres, Norway, February 22, 1842. Migrated to America in 1850. To their union were born Anna Mary, June 22, 1866; Julia, April 23, 1868 and Nels C., November 9, 1870.

The Juelson family moved west in 1868 in search of free land. The family first settled in Ottertail County, Minnesota. A year later they moved to Norman County where they homesteaded and became the owner of 240 acres of land. The first great sorrow came to the Juelson family October 6, 1872 when Jane, the wife and mother, died at the age of 26 years. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in the Fertile Cemetery at Fertile, Minnesota.

Hans Juelson enlisted for service in the Civil War on August 16, 1862, and became a member of Company C., 10th Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and saw service with Sibley's expedition to Dakota

Territory to put down the Indian uprising which occured in 1862 - 63.

After completion of the Indian campaign, his division was taken by boat down the Missouri River to St. Louis and from there to the southern battlefields where he engaged in the battles of Tupelo, Nashville and Mobile under General Thomas. Returning north by boat, Mr. Juelson was mustered out of service at Ft. Snelling, August 22, 1865.

Hans Juelson was united in marriage to Ella Iverson. To their union were born seven children, namely: Sam; Carl; John; Clara; Emma; Hanna and Nora. Mr. Juelson was a Populist in political party, holding office as Commissioiner of Norman County, and was elected to the State Legislature in 1892. Mr. Juelson died July 26, 1905 at the age of 68 years. His body lies at rest in the family lot in the Fertile Cemetery, Fertile, Minnesota.

ANNA MARY JUELSON

* * *

Anna Mary Juelson, daughter of Jane and Hans Juelson, was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, June 22, 1866. She migrated west with her parents to Ottertail County in 1868, then to Norman County, Minnesota. She was united in marriage to Andreas Sivertson, February 11, 1883. Andreas Sivertson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sivert Sivertson, was born in Norway, March 25, 1855. He migrated to America when a young man. To their union were born Anna M., March 26, 1884; Hans S., May 21, 1886; Julia E., May 5, 1889; Alfred M., September 24, 1892; Knut P., February 6, 1894; Karen M., January 3, 1896, Sivert, December 6, 1898; Laura O., January 28, 1901 and John M., May 17,

1904. The following deaths occurred: Annie M., the wife and mother, November 9, 1930 at the age of 64 years. Andreas M., April 5, 1937, at the age of 82 years. Also the following sons and daughters: Alfred M., May 18, 1917; Knut P., February 8, 1894; Karen M. October 18, 1915 and Laura O., December 28, 1903.

The Sivertson family were residents of Norman County, Minnesota for many years. Their bodies and those of their children lie at rest in Sundahl Church Cemetery, Norman County, Minnesota.

ANNA MATHILDA SIVERTSON

* * * *

Anna M. Sivertson, daughter of Annie M. and Andreas Sivertson, was born at Fertile, Minnesota, March 26, 1884. United in marriage to Jul O. Farden, June 21, 1906. Jul O. Farden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tolof Farden, was born at Northfield, Minnesota, May 10, 1880. To their union were born Mabel G., May 4, 1907; Truman A., September 29, 1910; Joris A., April 7, 1915 and Marlys, November 6, 1925. The Fardens resided at Crookston, Minnesota until his death on July 25, 1939 at the age of 59 years. His body lies at rest in Oakdale Cemetery, Crookston, Minnesota beside that of his sons Joris who died November 16, 1934 at the age of 19 years, and Truman A., who died September 1, 1940 at the age of 30 years. Anna M. Farden resides at Long Beach, California.

MABEL G. FARDEN

* * * * *

Mabel G. Farden, daughter of Anna M. and Jul O. Farden, was born at Crookston, Minnesota, May 4, 1907. United in marriage to Clarence N. Nelson,

December 28, 1929. Clarence N. Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reinhard C. M. Nelson, was born at New Folden, Minnesota, January 29, 1898. To their union were born Darlene A., April 22, 1931 and Marilyn J., April 27, 1934. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Long Beach, California.

DARLENE A. NELSON

* * * * * *

Darlene A. Nelson, daughter of Mabel G. and Clarence N. Nelson, was born at Crookston, Minnesota, April 22, 1931. United in marriage to Stanley R. Moore, May 12. 1951. Stanley R. Moore was born at Long Beach, California, December 4, 1930. To their union were born twins, Melissa Ann and Mitchell Alan, February 28, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Moore reside at Long Beach, California.

MARILYN J. NELSON

* * * * * *

Marilyn J. Nelson, daughter of Mabel G. and Clarence N. Nelson, was born at Crookston, Minnesota, April 27, 1934. United in marriage to Richard F. Lonsdale, May 16, 1953. Richard F. Lonsdale, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Lonsdale, was born at Long Beach, California, November 27, 1933. To their union were born Lori, June 6, 1954 and Steve, August 7, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Lonsdale reside at Long Beach, California.

TRUMAN A. FARDEN

* * * * *

Truman A. Farden, son of Anna M. and Jul O. Farden, was born at Crookston, Minnesota, September 29, 1910. United in marriage to Frances Lerum, September 20, 1935. Frances Lerum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lerum, was born at Crookston, Min-

nesota, September 5, 1916. Truman A. Farden resided at Crookston until his death, September 1, 1940. His body lies at rest in Oakdale Cemetery, Crookston, Minnesota.

MARLYS J. FARDEN

* * * * *

Marlys J. Farden, daughter of Anna M. and Jul O. Farden, was born at Crookston, Minnesota, November 6, 1925. United in marriage to Norman V. Kleinfelter, April 27, 1945. Norman V. Kleinfelter, son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Kleinfelter, was born at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, March 24, 1923. To their union was born a daughter, Linda Lee, May 12, 1946. Mr. Kleinfelter is serving in the U. S. Navy as an electrician, First Class. His family resides at Long Beach, California.

HANS S. SEVERSON

* * * *

Hans S. Severson, son of Anne M. and Andreas Severson, was born at Crookston, Minnesota, May 21, 1886. United in marriage to Margaret M. Gamble, June 21, 1916. Margaret M. Gamble, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Gamble, was born at Montello, Wisconsin, January 6, 1884. To their union were born Marion E., June 24, 1917; Lillian A., June 11, 1920 and Harold W., November 10, 1923. Hans Severson died December 23, 1938 at the age of 52 years. His body lies at rest in Greenwood Cemetery, Superior, Wisconsin. Margaret M. Gamble - Severson died May 12, 1955 at the age of 71 years. Her body lies at rest in Southlawn Memorial Park, Tucson, Arizona.

MARION E. SEVERSON

* * * * *

Marion E. Severson, daughter of Hans S. and Margaret M. Severson, was born at Billings County, North Dakota, June 24, 1917. United in marriage to Eric Holmlund, June 21, 1941. Eric Holmlund, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arene Holmlund, was born in Sweden. To their union was born a son, Keith D., July 17, 1953. Mr. and Mrs. Holmlund reside in Tucson, Arizona.

LILLIAN A. SEVERSON

* * * * *

Lillian A. Severson, daughter of Hans S. and Margaret M. Severson, was born in Snow County, North Dakota, June 11, 1920. United in marriage to George M. Fellner, June 18, 1943. George M. Fellner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steven Wolfe, was born at Menasha, Wisconsin, January 4, 1920. To their union were born Richard A., April 4, 1944; Kathleen A., May 9, 1945; George M., May 23, 1946 and William C., August 31, 1951. Mr. and Mrs. Fellner are merchants at Tucson, Arizona.

HAROLD W. SEVERSON

* * * * *

Harold W. Severson, son of Hans S. and Margaret M. Severson, was born at Warroad, Minnesota, November 10, 1923. United in marriage to Phyllis R. Lanquist, May 22, 1948. Phyllis Lanquist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lanquist, was born at Superior, Wisconsin, Januaury 31, 1926. To their union was born a daughter, Nancy Kay, October 4, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Severson reside at Superior, Wisconsin.

JULIA E. SEVERTSON

* * * *

Julia E. Severtson, daughter of Anna and Andreas Severtson, was born at Crookston, Minnesota, May 5, 1889. United in marriage to Obert Holt, September 6, 1912. Obert Holt was born at Ada, Minnesota, December 6, 1890. Julia E. Severtson - Holt died January 3, 1921 at the age of 32 years. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in Ada, Minnesota Cemetery.

SEVERT SEVERTSON

* * * *

Severt Severtson, son of Annie M. and Andreas Severtson, was born in Norman County, Minnesota, December 6, 1898. United in marriage to Lily M. R. Raaen, November 22, 1943. Lily M. R. Raaen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Severt S. Raaen, was born on a farm at Crookston, Minnesota, December 12, 1901. To this union was born a daughter, Sharon, June 5, 1945. Mr. and Mrs. Severtson reside near Gary, Minnesota where they operate a general store.

JOHN M. SEVERTSON

* * * *

John M. Severtson, son of Annie M. and Andreas Severtson, was born in Norman County, Minnesota on May 17, 1904. United in marriage to Julia N. Lien, June 17, 1925. Julia N. Lien was born at Twin Valley, Minnesota, December 23, 1902. To their union were born Jean N., August 18, 1926; Lyle, July 6, 1930 and Paul, February 5, 1939. Mr. and Mrs. Severtson reside on a farm near Gary, Minnesota.

LYLE SEVERTSON

* * * * *

Lyle Severtson, son of John M. and Julia N. Severtson, was born at Gary, Minnesota, July 6, 1930. United in marriage to Gertrude Gregor, September 24, 1955. Gertrude Gregor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Gregor, was born at Chicago, Illinois, September 16, 1932. Mr. and Mrs. Severtson reside at Fresno, California.

JULIA JUELSON

* * *

Julia Juelson, daughter of Julia ad Hans Juelson, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, April 23, 1868. Migrated to Ottertail County with her parents in 1868. United in marriage to Martimus Holt, July 16, 1886. To their union were born Henry H., November 29, 1887; Eleanor, May 10, 1890; Emma M., March 21, 1893, died February 23, 1905 and Carl M., August 1, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Holt made their home in Norman County until his death in 1905. Julia Holt was united in marriage to Thomas J. McCabe, September 18, 1906. Thomas McCabe was born in Nebraska, September 14, 1874. To their union were born Joseph, May 10, 1907, died October 3, 1911 and Margaret, August 15, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. McCabe resided at Red Owl, South Dakota where they were ranchers and later moved to Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, where they reside.

HENRY H. HOLT

* * * *

Henry H. Holt, son of Julia and Martimus Holt, was born in Norman County, Minnesota, November 29, 1887. United in marriage to Lola V. Kenyon, May 29, 1910. Lola V. Kenyon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Charles Kenyon, was born June 24, 1893. To their union were born Ella M., June 23, 1911; Doris V., July 28, 1913; Charles, May 17, 1918 and Inez A., September 20, 1920. Henry H. Holt was divorced from Lola V. Kenyon Holt in 1933 and united in marriage to Elizabeth A. Long, April 16, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Holt resided in South Dakota until 1942 when they moved to Eugene, Oregon where they now reside.

ELLA M. HOLT

* * * * *

Ella M. Holt, daughter of Henry H. and Lola V. Holt, was born at Alexandria, South Dakota, June 23, 1911. United in marriage to Clarence Cecil Cammack, November 20, 1929. Clarence Cecil Cammack, son of Mr. and Mrs. James O. Cammack, was born at Iowa Falls, Iowa, April 13, 1906. To their union were born Floyd A., March 20, 1931; Robert C., October 20, 1932 and Carol J., April 8, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Cammack reside at Stoneville, South Dakota where they are ranchers.

FLOYD A. CAMMACK

* * * * * *

Floyd A. Cammack, son of Ella M. and Clarence C. Cammack, was born at Cooper, South Dakota, March 20, 1931. He was united in marriage to Donna E. Lee, February 15, 1952. Donna E. Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd E. Lee, was born at Sturgis, South Dakota, November 10, 1934. To their union were born Gary L., June 9, 1953 and Randy A., January 1, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Cammack reside at Stoneville, South Dakota.

CAROL J. CAMMACK

* * * * * *

Carol J. Cammack, daughter of Ella M. and Clarence C. Cammack, was born at Rapid City, South Dakota, April 8, 1935. She was united in marriage to Henry K. Bruck, October 20, 1954. Henry J. Bruck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry K. Bruck, was born at Sturgis, South Dakota, August 8, 1930. To their union was born Paul Edward, August 14, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Bruck reside at Stoneville, South Dakota.

DORIS HOLT

* * * * *

Doris Holt, daughter of Henry H. and Lois V. Holt, was born at Alexandria, South Dakota, July 28, 1913. United in marriage to Carl Schleuning, April 8, 1933. Carl Schleuning, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Schleuning, was born at Rapid City, South Dakota, October 20, 1908. To their union was born Shirley Ann, April 7, 1934. Mr. and Mrs. Schleuning reside at Faith, South Dakota.

SHIRLEY ANN SCHLEUNING

* * * * * *

Shirley Ann Schleuning, daughter of Doris and Carl Schleuning, was born at Faith, South Dakota April 7, 1934. United in marriage to Dale Delker, October 19, 1955. Dale Delker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gottheilf Delker, was born at Faith, South Dakota, October 3, 1932. Mr. and Mrs. Delker reside at Faith, South Dakota.

CHARLES S. HOLT

* * * * *

Charles S. Holt, son of Henry H. and Lola V. Holt, was born at Ethan, South Dakota, May 17,

1918. United in marriage to Clara M. Darg, July 21, 1945. Clara M. Darg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Darg, was born at Rapid City, South Dakota, April 29, 1916. To their union were born Dean E., June 22, 1946; Richard C., July 6, 1947, died July 28, 1947, and Harold H., October 22, 1948. Mr. and Mrs. Holt reside at Stoneville, South Dakota.

INEZ A. HOLT

* * * * *

Inez A. Holt, daughter of Henry H. and Lola Holt, was born at Ethan, South Dakota, September 20, 1920. United in marriage to Oliver V. Clarin, June 25, 1941. Oliver Clarin, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Clarin, was born at Arlington, South Dakota, January 2, 1918. To their union were born Victoria I., May 23, 1942; Lyman O., September 7, 1945; Lenny J., June 29, 1950 and Janette L., March 3, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Clarin reside at Stoneville, South Dakota.

ELEANOR J. HOLT

* * * *

Eleanor J. Holt, daughter of Julia and Martinus Holt, was born in Norman County, Minnesota, May 10, 1890. She was united in marriage to Edward Hallas, February 13, 1907. To their union was born Clifford, October 24, 1907. Eleanor Holt - Hallas resides at Seattle, Washington. Clifford Hallis resides at Boston, Massachusetts.

CARL M. McCABE

* * * *

Carl M. McCabe, son of Julius and Martinus Holt, was born in Norman County, Minnesota, August 1, 1896. Following the marriage of his mother to Thomas McCabe, he assumed the surname of

McCabe. He was united in marriage to Ethel Coralin Choate, February 7, 1923. Ethel C. Choate, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Choate, was born at Milan, Wisconsin, March 26, 1903. To their union were born Doris L., May 10, 1924; Evelyn M., January 15, 1926 and twins, Duane and Darrell, October 8, 1928, and died December 13, 1928. Mr. and Mrs. McCabe were ranchers and resided at Red Owl, South Dakota until his death September 5, 1935 His body lies with those of his children in the cemetery at Faith, South Dakota.

DORIS LEONE McCABE

* * * * *

Doris Leone McCabe, daughter of Carl M. and Ethel C. McCabe, was born at Faith, South Dakota May 10, 1924. United in marriage to Theodore J. Risdall, May 9, 1944. Theodore J. Risdall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Casper Risdall, was born at Veblen, South Dakota December 23, 1914. To their union were born Joyce D., June 13, 1946; Fonda B., January 9, 1949, died January 27, 1949; Myrna L., May 19, 1950; Carmel L., October 14, 1951 and Rochelle, September 7, 1954. The Risdalls were ranchers residing at Marcus, South Dakota and recently moved to Granite City, Wyoming.

EVELYN MARGARET McCABE

* * * * *

Evelyn M. McCabe, daughter of Carl M. and Ethel C. McCabe, was born at Faith, South Dakota, January 15, 1926. United in marriage to James R. Reed, October 27, 1945. James R. Reed, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Reed Jr., was born at Faith, South Dakota July 3, 1926. To their union were born Cynthia Lynn, October 12, 1947 and Miles Roux, Feb-

ruary 14, 1949. The Reeds are ranchers and reside at Faith, South Dakota.

MARGARET A. McCABE

* * * *

Margaret A. McCabe, daughter of Thomas and Julia McCabe, was born at Faith, South Dakota, August 15, 1909. United in marriage to Joseph Haugen October 31, 1934. Joseph Haugen was born at Pine River, Minnesota, October 21, 1908. The Haugens resided at Coeur D'Alene, Idaho until her death, September 15, 1945. Her body lies at rest in the Coeur D'Alene, Idaho Cemetery.

NELS CHRISTIAN JUELSON

* * *

Nels Christian Juelson, son of Jane and Hans Juelson, was named in memory of his uncle, Rovang Christian Nelson, who served in the Civil War and was killed in the battle of Nashville. He was born in Ottertail County, Minnesota, November 9, 1870. Moved with his parents to Norman County, Minnesota.

CHAPTER TEN

ARNOLD EDWARD NELSON

* *

Arnold E. Nelson, son of Nels and Anna Rovang - Olson, was born on the Rovang farm, Valdres, Norway, August 7, 1848. Migrated to America with his parents in 1850. His parents first settled in the frontier settlement of Cambridge, Wisconsin, where they resided for two years after which they moved to Decorah, Iowa. In early April of 1854, the family again migrated. This time their trail led them north into Minnesota Territory to Highland Township, Wabasha County, where the parents took squatters rights to land which they later pre-empted and which became their home for many years.

Arnold E. Nelson was the ninth child in a f.amily of ten. He grew to manhood with his parents and assisted in clearing land and doing farm work. Arnold E. Nelson was united in marriage to Rose Franzon, July 29, 1872. Following their marriage the young couple took up farming on their own farm. Their married life was of short duration as a disastrous fire destroyed their home and household belongings, and impaired the health of Mrs. Nelson to the extent that her untimely death occurred September 15, 1874. Arnold E. Nelson again took up residence with his parents and it was to this home he brought his second bride, Hattie Anderson, to whom he was married in 1876 at Decorah, Iowa. Hattie Anderson was a sister to Andrew K. Anderson who was married to Anna, Arnold's sister. To their union were born Rose E., January

25, 1879, died February 9, 1883; Norman C., January 28, 1881; Minnie J., February 25, 1883, died in 1883; Rose A., November 7, 1884; Arthur H., May 22, 1886 and Edward, 1890, died 1890.

The death of Rose E. and Minnie J. was due to a diphtheria epidemic which prevailed in the settlement at that time, causing the death of many children.

Arnold E. Nelson, in 1878, purchased the farm pre-empted by his parents, made many improvements by clearing more land for the crops. Erected a new seven room dwelling, also barns and stables for stock and storage of grain. The death of Hattie Anderson, wife and mother, took place in 1890. Her body with those of her children, lie at rest in Greenwood Cemetery at Plainview, Minnesota. The third wife of Arnold E. Nelson was Mary M. Engelbretson, to whom he was united in marriage at Plainview, Minnesota, January 1, 1893. Mary M. Engelbretson was born in Oslo, Norway, September 7, 1860 and came to America with her parents in 1888. To their union were born Carl E., September 25, 1893; Frances M., March 17, 1895; Agnes R., December 22, 1897 and Alfred J., September 22, 1900.

MIGRATES TO CANADA

Arnold E. Nelson, for the second time in his life's span, migrated to a new land. Disposing of his land which had for many years been the home of his family and parents, he loaded an emigrant car with horses, cattle, farm machinery and household goods. It was early in April, 1902, that this emigrant car with Arnold E. Nelson as attendant to care for the horses and cattle enroute to their new home in far off Alberta, Canada, left Plainview.

This mode of travel was somewhat improved from that of his first migration to the new land in 1852, when his parents migrated by oxen and covered wagon from Cambridge, Wisconsin to Decorah, Iowa.

The destination of the emigration party was Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada, which was a frontier village through which many land seekers traveled. Arnold E. Nelson was so impressed with the new country and the fertility of the soil that he purchased a quarter section of land a mile north of Wetaskiwin on which he built his home and cleared land for crops. His stay on this land however, was short as he moved two years later to a homestead in the Lake DeMay district, thirty-two miles to the northeast. Here he built a permanent home for his family and stables for stock. Perhaps one of his most difficult tasks was clearing the land of a growth of small timber that covered a large portion of the land.

The cleared land produced a bountiful crop of wheat and other small grain. The nearest market place was Wetaskiwin, thirty-two miles away. There were no roads in the new country, which made the marketing of farm produce very difficult. Those that went to market followed deep rutted wagon trails that wound their way, skirting the groves of timber and fording bridgeless streams and rivers. The market place came nearer when the Canadian Pacific Railway, 1905, built a railroad into the district and established the village of Camrose which was eight miles distance from the Nelson homestead. The coming of the railroad meant further development in that community and better farm homes, better farm to market roads and highways and perhaps

a creamery would be established which would encourage the dairy farmers in their efforts to improve farm conditions.

The life of the pioneer was normally a happy one, as they struggled for larger grain fields, better homes and community conditions. There were also trying and difficult times. Perhaps the most severe was the depression of 1930, and the following years. During this period, Lake DeMay farmers sold their oats for nine cents and wheat for fifteen cents per bushel. The value of all other farm products slumped accordingly. Farm land became almost valueless, as many farms were abandoned to mortgage or tax collectors. Better conditions, however, came to the farmers with the uptrend of grain values and the discovery of oil not far away. Arnold E. Nelson lived through the various stages of pioneer life enjoying its pleasures and enduring its hardships that were so common in the building of a new community. He served for many years as trustee on the school board and was active in church work. Arnold E. Nelson died at his farm home October 18, 1913, at the age of 65 years. His body lies at rest in the family lot in Lake DeMay Cemetery. Mary M. Engebretson - Nelson, wife and mother, resided with her daughter, Frances, until her death October 16, 1944, at the advanced age of 84 years. Her body lies at rest in the Baptist Cemetery, Mallaig, Alberta, Canada.

NORMAN CLARENCE NELSON

* * *

Norman Clarence Nelson, son of Arnold E. and Hattie Nelson, was born on a farm two miles north of Plainview, Highland Township, Minnesota, Jan-

uary 28, 1881. After completing his studies in the district school, he attended and graduated from the Plainview High School. Norman was very determined to secure a higher education. He lived with his parents and did farm work during school vacation and before and after school hours. His early education did not come to him without effort, as he rode a pony four miles to and from school each day, regardless of the winter storms. After completing his high school course, he enrolled in the Minnesota University as a student, selecting Electrical Engineering as his course. After attending the University for two years, he secured a position with the Washburn Crosby Flour Mills in Minneapolis, which position he held until 1907, when he moved to the state of Washington and enrolled in the University of Washington at Seattle to complete his electrical education. He graduated two years later with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. During the time he attended the university he held a part time position with the Municipal Light and Power Company of Seattle and upon completion of his schooling was promoted to supervisor of all overhead electrical construction. In 1916 he resigned his position with the city of Seattle and accepted the superintendency with the Municipal Light and Power Department in Eugene, Oregon. Returning to Seattle shortly after the outbreak of World War I, he became head of the Electrical Engineering Department in the Skinner-Eddy Shipyard for the duration of the war. Following this engagement he was made superintendent of the North Pacific Public Service Company at Bremerton, Washington, holding this position until his death, May 26, 1925. His body was cremated

and his ashes scattered upon the waters of Puget Sound, on the shore of which he made his home for many years and which he loved, having camped, fished and canoed there every holiday possible. He was a member of Daylight Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Seattle, and was 44 years of age at the time of his death.

Norman Clarence Nelson was united in marriage to Florence Lynde Arment, April 21, 1911. Florence Lynde Arment was born at Ellensburg, Washington, December 29, 1890. She received her education in the public schools at Seattle and the University of Washington. To their union were born two daughters, namely Harriette Rose, April 23, 1912 and Lois Laurel, September 22, 1913. Mrs. Nelson resides at Seattle, Washington.

HARRIETTE ROSE NELSON

* * * *

Harriette Rose Nelson, daughter of Norman C. and Florence L. Nelson, was born at Seattle, Washington, April 23, 1912. She graduated from Franklin High School. United in marriage to Charles Kidder, March 5, 1935. Charles Kidder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Erne Kidder, was born at Seattle, Washington, May 20, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Kidder resided at Seattle where Mr. Kidder was a university student until his death, September 18, 1935. His body lies at rest in the Washington Park Memorial Cemetery near Seattle, Harriette Nelson - Kidder was united in marriage to Trevor Digby Roberts, July 3, 1936. Trevor Digby Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Digby Roberts, was born at Seattle, Washington, February 24, 1914. To their union were born Stanford D., March 14, 1941 and Ronald D., May 8, 1945. Trevor

Roberts attended Lakeside Private School and the University of Washington, also the University School at Victoria, B. C. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts own and operate Whido Isle Beach Resort on Whidby Island, near Seattle.

LOIS LAUREL NELSON

* * * *

Lois Laurel Nelson, daughter of Norman C. and Florence L. Nelson, was born in Seattle, Washington, September 22, 1913. She graduated from the Franklin High School, Seattle. She died November 16, 1932 at the age of 19 years. Her body was cremated and her ashes scattered upon the waters of Puget Sound, as were those of her father.

ROSE ALVINA NELSON

* * *

Rose Alvina Nelson, daughter of Arnold E. and Hattie Nelson, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, November 7, 1884. She attended district school and later the Plainview High School. She moved with her parents in 1902 to Alberta, Canada, locating in what was known as the Camrose District. On November 15, 1903 she was united in marriage to Ernest Wilbur Emery. Ernest Wilbur Emery, son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Emery, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, November 14, 1868. Levi Emery was a Civil War veteran. His father, David E. Emery, was an importer during the period of the Boston Tea Party. Mrs. Levi Emery was Ursula Williams Metcalf, who was born at Concord, New Hampshire, and a relative of Governor Roger Williams of Rhode Island. Mr. and Mrs. Emery followed the occupation of farming in the Camrose District until 1922, when

they moved with their family to Black Pool, B. C., where they purchased a small farm and combined farming with his employment with the Canadian Railway. Ernest Emery died October 20, 1929, at the age of 61 years. Mrs. Emery continues to reside at Black Pool, B. C., with her family. To their union were born nine children, five sons and four daughters. Norman E., August 16, 1904; Florence A., February 22, 1906; Clarence A., May 20, 1908; Jessie, August 16, 1910; Frances G., May 23, 1913; Ralph W., February 28, 1916; Elmer E., October 14, 1918; Edwin L., May 18, 1922 and Isabel U., May 1, 1925.

NORMAN ERNEST EMERY

* * * *

Norman Ernest Emery, son of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born at Camrose, Alberta, Canada, August 16, 1904. United in marriage to Edith M. Hagen, April 19, 1950. Edith M. Hagen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Hagen, was born in Kamloops, B. C., December 13, 1931. To their union were born Elizabeth Rose, January 26, 1951 and Alice Ruth, June 23, 1954. The day following the declaration of war by Canada in World War II, Norman E. Emery enlisted for service in the Canadian Army and saw service in Italy and the Western Front. Mr. and Mrs. Emery reside in Port Coquitlain, B. C.

FLORENCE ALVINA EMERY

* * * *

Florence A. Emery, daughter of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born at Camrose, Alberta, Canada, February 22, 1906. United in marriage to Robert M. Taylor, December 16, 1927. Robert M. Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Taylor, was

born in England October 11, 1904. To their union were born Robert E., November 13, 1928, died March 20, 1929; Florence G., December 13, 1929; Isabelle F., September 10, 1931; Walter R., November 8, 1932; Arthur R., October 19, 1934; Ruth M., June 30, 1936 and Alan N., March 10, 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor reside at Merritt, B. C.

ISABELLE FRANCES TAYLOR

* * * * *

Isabelle F. Taylor, daughter of Florence A. and Robert M. Taylor, was born at Kamloops, B. C., September 10, 1931. United in marriage to Robert W. Fyall, October 16, 1954. Robert W. Fyall was born in Saskatchewan, Canada, June 26, 1932. Mr. and Mrs. Fyall reside at North Kamloops, B. C.

ARTHUR R. TAYLOR

* * * * *

Arthur R. Taylor, son of Florence A. and Robert M. Taylor, was born at Merritt, B. C., October 19, 1934. United in marriage to Marjory M. Bradshaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Bradshaw. Marjory Bradshaw was born at Kamloops, B. C., December 16, 1936. To their union were born Gail A., July 28, 1955 and twins, a son and a daughter, November 1, 1956, died after four days of life. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor reside at Merritt, B. C.

CLARENCE ARTHUR EMERY

* * * *

Clarence Arthur Emery, son of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, May 20, 1908. United in marriage to Ellen M. Carter, September 16, 1953. Ellen M. Carter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Carter, was born at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, April 26, 1923.

To their union were born Brian E., June 30, 1954 and Sheryl L., July 13, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Emery reside at Falkland, B. C.

JESSIE IRENE EMERY

* * * *

Jessie Irene Emery, daughter of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, August 16, 1910. United in marriage to Leslie L. Shook, September 4, 1937. Leslie L. Shook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Shook, was born at Princeton, B. C., July 15, 1912. To their union were born Leslie E., June 23, 1938; Clarence G., January 29, 1940; Vernon N., January 1, 1941; Muriel F., June 21, 1943 and Marjorie L., June 24, 1945. Mr. and Mrs. Shook reside at Barnhartvale, B. C.

FRANCES GRACE EMERY

* * * *

Frances Grace Emery, daughter of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, May 23, 1913. United in marriage to Floyd A. Shook, August 15, 1936. Floyd A. Shook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Shook, was born at Leaky, Washington, May 8, 1909. To their union were born Jessie J., July 15, 1937; Dorothy E., March 25, 1939; Edwin F., January 8, 1941 and Donald, June 3, 1947. Mr. and Mrs. Shook reside at Louie Creek, B. C.

RALPH WILBUR EMERY

* * * *

Ralph Wilbur Emery, son of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, February 28, 1916. United in marriage to Edith E. Shook September 21, 1937. Edith

E. Shook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Shook, was born at Princeton, B. C., February 12, 1918. To their union were born Myrna L., October 1, 1938; Norman L., December 21, 1939; Donald A., April 15, 1941; Linda F., July 8, 1949 and Denice L., August 19, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Emery reside at Kamloops, B. C.

ELMER ELLSWORTH EMERY

* * * *

Elmer Ellsworth Emery, son of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, October 14, 1918. United in marriage to Mary Johnston February 10, 1946. Mary Johnston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Johnston, was born September 10, 1925. To their union was born a son, Darwin, January 19, 1947. Mr. and Mrs. Emery reside at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada.

EDWIN LEVI EMERY

* * * *

Edwin Levi Emery, son of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, May 18, 1922. Enlisted in the Canadian Army for service in Europe. Was killed in action in Holland, April 21, 1945. His body lies at rest in grave 5, Row 9, Plat 3, Canadian Military Cemetery at Holten, Holland.

ISABEL URSULA EMERY

* * * *

Isabel Ursula Emery, daughter of Rose A. and Ernest W. Emery, was born on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada, May 1, 1925. United in marriage to James Bifano, December 15, 1946. James Bifano, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bifano, was born at Nordegg, Alberta, Canada, March 3, 1922. To their

union were born Yvonne I., April 6, 1948; Beverly R., May 21, 1949; Ralph J., December 11, 1950 and Shirley Ann, December 3, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Bifano reside at Vancouver, B. C.

ARTHUR HENRY NELSON

* * *

Arthur Henry Nelson, son of Arnold E. and Hattie Nelson, was born at Plainview, Minnesota May 22, 1886. He attended the district school and later graduated from the Plainview High School. In the early spring of 1902, he migrated to Canada with his parents, who first settled at Wetaskiwin, then later to the Lake DeMay district. On reaching homestead age of eighteen, Arthur migrated further northwest and settled in the frontier district of Saint Paul, Alberta, Canada, sixty miles from the nearest railroad town.

This district developed into a prosperous farming community. The soil was rich black loam. There were timber tracts with trees large enough for farm buildings, both log and sawed lumber. This land was taken up very rapidly by new settlers from Canada and the United States. The land produced large yields of oats, wheat and other grains, but returns were small due to their long market haul. This situation was improved however when the Canadian railway built a branch of their line into the territory in 1922 and platted the town of Saint Paul. This was a big boost to the new settlers as it gave them a short haul to market. Saint Paul became a distribution and market place for a large territory.

Arthur Nelson was united in marriage to Myrtle N. Dayton, December 12, 1918. Myrtle N. Dayton,

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Nuestad, was born at Onaway, Michigan, November 15, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson live near Saint Paul and follow the occupation of farming. To their union were born two sons, Gordon Arthur, December 28, 1921 and William Lloyd, August 3, 1929. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Breton, Alberta, Canada.

GORDON ARTHUR NELSON

* * * *

Gordon Arthur Nelson, son of Arthur H. and Myrtle M. Nelson, was born on a farm near Saint Paul, Alberta, Canada, December 28, 1921. He received his early education in the district schools, followed by the high school at Saint Paul. Following the declaration of war by Canada he enlisted in the Canadian Army for foreign service at the age of 18, and after a course of training became a member of the R. A. F. stationed in England.

He was in active service on the Western Front. His plane was shot down over Holland June 12, 1943. His body lies at rest at Wenocel, Endhoven General Cemetery, Holland, where it was committed June 16, 1943.

Gordon was united in marriage to Patricia Appleby, February 20, 1942. Patricia Appleby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Appleby, was born at Ruslull, England, May 24, 1920. To this union was born a son, Gordon Lloyd Nelson, October 23, 1943. Mrs. Nelson and her son reside at Bonnyville, Alberta, Canada .

WILLIAM LLOYD NELSON

* * * *

William Lloyd Nelson, son of Arthur H. and Myrtle M. Nelson, was born on a farm near Saint

Paul, Alberta, Canada, August 3, 1929. William L. Nelson remained at home with his parents assisting with farm work. United in marriage to Myrtle Blackman. To their union were born Kenneth Lee, April 2, 1952; Myrtle Mae, April 9, 1954; Garry Lloyd, October 6, 1955 and Donald Gordon, March 3, 1957. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Breton, Alberta, Canada.

CARL EBERT NELSON

* * *

Carl Ebert Nelson, known to his friends as "Charlie", son of Arnold E. and Mary M. Nelson, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, September 25, 1893. At the age of nine years he migrated to Alberta, Canada, with his parents and lived with them on their new homestead in the Lake DeMay district for a number of years. In 1927 he purchased land in the Mallaig district and now resides on a farm just outside of Mallaig, Alberta. On March 28, 1932, Carl E. Nelson was united in marriage to Mary Melnychuk. Mary Melnychuk was born at Smokey Lake, Alberta, Canada, September 22, 1910. To their union were born Margaret Ruby, November 6, 1932; Edwin Carl, May 17, 1935; Raymond John, August 5, 1936. and Kenneth Stanley, May, 1946.

MARGARET RUBY NELSON

* * * *

Margaret Ruby Nelson, daughter of Carl E. and Mary Nelson, was born at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada, November 6, 1932. United in marriage to Lloyd Erickson, December 3, 1949. Lloyd Erickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Erickson, was born at Therian, Alberta, Canada, July 21, 1925. To their union were

born Joyce Beverly, August 30, 1950, Gordon K., April 6, 1952 and Gerry Lloyd, January 9, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson reside at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada.

FRANCES MAY NELSON

* * *

Frances May Nelson, daughter of Arnold E. and Mary M. Nelson, was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, March 17, 1895. At the age of seven years, she migrated with her parents to Canada and lived with them on their homestead in the Lake DeMay District. After completing her schooling in the district schools, she attended high school in Camrose and completed a teacher's course in the Camrose Normal. Following the completion of her education, she taught school in Alberta and British Columbia until her marriage. Due to the scarcity of teachers following the outbreak of World War II, she again took up the teaching profession and served in that capacity for a number of years. On December 3, 1923, she was united in marriage to Enoch N. Haglund. Enoch N. Haglund was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on April 26, 1890. In 1909 he migrated to Alberta, Canada, first settling at Vegreville and then the Saint Paul district, where they now reside on their homestead, three miles outside the town of Mallaig. Many hardships were experienced in their early pioneering days as the nearest railroad market place was eighty-five miles away. To their union were born Wayne N., September 18, 1924; twins, Carol Janette and Dorette T., November 19, 1925. Carol Janette died June 29, 1926 at the age of seven months. Also born to them were Freda L., March 6, 1929; Irene A.,

December 5, 1930; Leslie N., August 8, 1933 and Ruth G., August 9, 1935.

WAYNE N. HAGLUND

* * * *

Wayne N. Haglund, son of Frances M. and Enoch Haglund, was born at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada, September 18, 1924. United in marriage to Ellen B. Johnson, July 2, 1949. Ellen B. Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, was born at Kellog, Sask., Canada, May 8, 1925. To their union were born Judith M., July 29, 1950; Susan D., March 16, 1952 and Jonathan Wayne, July 20, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Haglund are farmers and reside on the farm home near Mallaig, Alberta, Canada.

DORETTE T. HAGLUND

* * * *

Dorette T. Haglund, daughter of Frances M. and Enoch Haglund, was born at Mallaig, Aberta, Canada, November 19, 1925. United in marriage to Dr. Norman D. Copeland, November 20, 1954, at Hagere, Heywet, Ethiopia, Africa. Dr. Copeland, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Copeland, was born at Superior, Wisconsin, October 26, 1919. To their union were born Stephen M., August 16, 1955 and Philip J., October 16, 1956. Dr. and Mrs. Copeland are medical missionaries in Ethiopia, under the direction of the Baptist General Conference of America. Mrs. Copeland received nurses training and her degree at the Royal Alexandria Hospital, at Edmonton, Alberta. Dr. Copeland graduated from Marquette School of Medicine, Madison, Wisconsin.

FREDA L. HAGLUND

* * * *

Freda L. Haglund, daughter of Frances M. and

Enoch Haglund, was born at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada, March 6, 1929. On completion of high school at Mallaig, she attended the University of Alberta. United in marriage to John J. Phillips, December 6, 1952. John J. Phillips, son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Phillips, was born on the Isle of Man, August 30, 1923. To their union were born Percy J., September 30, 1953; David G., February 3, 1955 and John L., November 10, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips reside at Bonneyville, Alberta, Canada.

IRENE A. HAGLUND

* * * *

Irene A. Haglund, daughter of Frances M. and Enoch Haglund, was born at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada, December 5, 1930. On completing high school at Mallaig, she attended Alberta Business College, Christian Training Institute and the University of Alberta at Edmonton. Miss Haglund has followed the teaching profession since graduating from the above institutions. She resides at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada.

LESLIE NELSON HAGLUND

* * * *

Leslie N. Haglund, son of Frances M. and Enoch Haglund, was born at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada, August 8, 1933. Mr. Haglund is a graduate of the Mallaig High School and the Christian Training Institute of Edmonton. He is farming the home place at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada. He was united in marriage to Gertrude Engler, August 11, 1956. Gertrude Engler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Werner Engler, was born at Saint Paul, Alberta, Canada, November 20, 1931.

RUTH G. HAGLUND

* * * *

Ruth G. Haglund, daughter of Frances M. and Enoch Haglund, was born at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada, August 9, 1935. Following completion of Mallaig High School, she attended Christian Training Institute, after which she entered the Royal Alexandria Training School for Nurses at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

AGNES RUTH NELSON

* * *

Agnes Ruth Nelson, daughter of Arnold E. and Mary M. Nelson, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, December 22, 1897. She migrated to Alberta, Canada with her parents in 1902 and continued to live with them on their homestead in the Lake DeMay district. She attended district school and the Camrose High School. On March 28, 1918, she was united in marriage to Stanley A. Nelson. Stanley A. Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Neele Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, August 21, 1894. He migrated with his parents to Alberta, Canada when eight years old and lived with them on their homestead in the Lake DeMay Territory until his marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson farmed in the Camrose district until October of 1922, when they moved to Calgary, Canada, where Stanley held a position as instructor in the Calgary Technical Electrical School for twenty years. To their union were born Olive M., November 16, 1919, died February 2, 1920; Ruby I., September 23, 1921; Lyle A., August 28, 1923; Vernon S., October 9, 1925; Dorothy M., January 15, 1928 and Clifford M., October 17, 1931. Stanley A. Nelson died February 14, 1950 at the age of 55 years. His body

lies at rest in Calgary Cemetery. Agnes Ruth Nelson, daughter of Arnold E. and Mary Nelson, was united in marriage to Arthur J. Coles, July 1, 1955. Arthur J. Coles, son of Frances Coles, was born in Scotland, May 30, 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Coles reside at Wainwright, Alberta, Canada.

RUBY IRENE NELSON

* * * *

Ruby Irene Nelson, daughter of Agnes R. and Stanley A. Nelson, was born at Calgary, Alberta, Canada, September 23, 1921. United in marriage to Philip Malcher, August 18, 1952. Philip Malcher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Malcher, was born at Ponoka, Alberta, Canada, September 12, 1912. To their union was born a son, Randal C., August 7, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Malcher reside at Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

LYLE ARNOLD NELSON

* * * *

Lyle A. Nelson, son of Agnes R. and Stanley A. Nelson, was born at Calgary, Alberta, Canada, August 28, 1923. Enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces September 19, 1941, at the age of nineteen years. Choosing the aviation section, he was made a sergeant in wireless and air gunnery a year later. For two months following his graduation he was assigned to submarine patrol off the American East Coast. It was while on this duty that he received a special message of thanks from the U. S. Government for reporting the position of a disabled oil tanker which had recently been hit by a German submarine torpedo. He was ordered overseas March 17, 1943, and became attached to the R. A. F. Costal Command. On June 29 they were ordered to the

coast of Holland to search for the crew of a Flying Fortress which had been reported down. It was on this mission that their plane took part in the attack on the Tripits. Unfortunately their plane was shot down and sank on striking the water. Lyle Nelson and companions floated in the North Sea for eight hours before they were spotted by an American plane on its return from the front. Heroic action by a rescuer saved them from drowning. Lyle Nelson was rendered helpless by two severe shrapnel wounds in the spine. He was invalided home after three months in English hospitals, still possessing some German metal.

VERNON STANLEY NELSON

* * * *

Vernon Stanley Nelson, son of Agnes R. and Stanley A. Nelson, was born at Calgary, Alberta, Canada, October 9, 1925. Enlisted in the R. C. A. F. at Calgary, March 6, 1943. Received his early wireless training at Calgary and graduated as wireless operator and gunman at Hamilton, Ontario, with the rank of sergeant and served throughout World War II. Vernon S. Nelson was united in marriage to Gwen Setter, May 2, 1953. Gwen Setter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Setter, was born at Selkirk, Manitoba, September 5, 1929. To their union was born a daughter, Sherri Lynn, March 20, 1954. Sergeant Nelson re-enlisted in the R. C. A. F. and is stationed at Camp MacDonald, Manitoba, as radio technician where the family resides.

DOROTHY M. NELSON

* * * *

Dorothy M. Nelson, daughter of Agnes R. and

tanley A. Nelson, was born at Calgary, Alberta, Canada, January 15, 1928. United in marriage to Donald Johnston, August 20, 1951. Donald Johnston, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Johnston, was born at Vulcan, Alberta, Canada, January 5, 1924. To their union were born Ronald B., January 19, 1950; Valerie G., August 20, 1951 and Douglas A., July 24, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston reside at Carseland, Alberta, Canada.

CLIFFORD G. NELSON

* * * *

Clifford G. Nelson, son of Agnes R. and Stanley A. Nelson, was born at Calgary, Alberta, Canada, October 17, 1931. United in marriage to Norma Gair, September 4, 1954. Norma Gair, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Gair, was born at Vergerville, Alberta, Canada, September 21, 1933. To their union was born a son, Craig Stanley, December 5, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson resided at Norman, Oklahoma while he attended the University of Oklahoma. They now reside at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

ALFRED JOSEPH NELSON

* * *

Alfred Joseph Nelson, son of Arnold and Mary M. Nelson, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, September 22, 1900. He migrated to Alberta, Canada with his parents when two years of age and lived with them on their homestead in the Lake DeMay district until the death of his father in 1913. Alfred, his mother, and brother, Carl, moved to Mallaig where land was purchased and a new home established. On November 2, 1929 he was united in marriage to Rita Melnychuk. Reta Melnychuk was born at Clendon, Cana-

da, March 16, 1912. To their union were born Rose Marie, August 6, 1931, died November 20, 1938 at the age of seven years; Ilene Dorothy, December 28, 1932 and Daniel A., and Elmer R., twins, October 23, 1935. Rita Melynchuk - Nelson died January, 1936 at the age of 24 years. Her body lies at rest in the Clendon Cemetery beside that of her daughter. Alfred J. Nelson was united in marriage to Doris Rogerson, March 20, 1943. Doris Rogerson was born in England July 4, 1898 and migrated to Canada following the first World War. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson reside at Edson, Alberta, Canada.

ILENE DOROTHY NELSON

* * * *

Ilene Dorothy Nelson, daughter of Alfred J. and Mary M. Nelson, was born at Mallaig, Alberta, Canada, December 28, 1932. United in marriage to William Melnychuk, December 3, 1955. They reside at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

NEELE NELSON

* *

Neele Nelson, son of Nels and Anna Rovang - lson, was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, August 1851, at a Scandinavian settlement known as Cam- :idge. When a year old his parents moved to the ontier settlement of Decorah, Iowa, and two years .ter to Highland Township, Wabasha County, Ter- tory of Minnesota, where they pre-empted a quar- :r section of land. Neele lived with his parents ntil his marriage to Maryanna Quisel, December 5, 1875. Maryanna Quisel, daughter of Lars and ertrude Quisel, was born at Decorah, Iowa, May 8, 1855, and moved with her parents to Highland 'ownship when a young girl. She was one of a fam- y of eight children. Her sister, Josephine, later narried Christian Nelson of Toronto, South Dakota. n the early spring of 1882, Neele and his family oined an overland caravan of homesteaders to Da- :ota Territory where land was recently opened to ettlers. On reaching Dakota Territory they pre- mpted land in Argo Township, Brookings County, vhere they built their farm home and broke the 'irgin prairie sod. This remained their home until .900. Neele was elected Justice of the Peace on March 6, 1888, which position he held for a number of years. He also served several years as Township Assessor. Neele also was active in church work and on July 7, 1890 was made Exhorter for the Norwe- gian Methodist Episcopal Church of the district, which position he held for the following ten years.

Early in 1900, Neele Nelson, together with many of his friends, again migrated to secure free land for himself and his family. This time it was to the Province of Alberta, in western Canada. Not in a covered wagon as his former migration had been, but in a modern train that shuttled their emigrant cars over the border to within forty miles of the land that was to be their home, and was to be known as the Lake DeMay district. Wagons loaded heavily with farm equipment and household goods wound their way over prairie trails that passed through patches of poplar timber to their final destination, a quarter section of land upon which they had previously filed their homestead rights. The construction of farm buildings followed to make shelter for the coming winter. Large tracts of land originally covered with brush and small growth timber was cleared for the plow and yielded thirty bushels of wheat per acre. The Canadian government established the Lake DeMay postoffice in his home and Neele Nelson was appointed postmaster, which position he held until his death October 25, 1910, at the age of 59 years. To their union were born Amanda J., March 4, 1877; Lawrence N., April 6, 1879, died February 11, 1880; Nathan A., March 22, 1880; Lamen, July 26, 1882; Carl O., November 12, 1883; Mabel, August 19, 1885; Lillie D., August 2, 1892; Stanley, August 21, 1894 and Esther, July 29, 1896. Maryanna Quisel died at the family home November 1, 1920 at the age of 65 years. Her body with that of her husband and children, lie at rest in the Lake DeMay Cemetery.

AMANDA J. NELSON

* * *

Amanda J. Nelson, daughter of Neele and Mary-

anna Nelson, was born in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, March 4, 1877. She migrated with her parents to Dakota Territory in the spring of 1882, where they filed pre-emption claims to a quarter section of land in Argo Township, Brookings County. In 1899 she entered the state hospital at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, for nurses training and remained with that institution following her graduation. She was united in marriage to G. H. Rathine, January 27, 1904. G. H. Rathine was a graduate nurse in the same institution and was born in Sweden, April 6, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Rathine continued their services at Fergus Falls until 1905 when they secured a similar engagement with the California State Hospital at Agnew, with which institution they remained for twenty years, moving in 1925 to the State Hospital at Ukiah where they remained until his death December 23, 1928, as the result of an automobile accident. Amanda Nelson - Rathine died on June 17, 1930 as a result of the same accident. Their bodies lie at rest in the family lot at St. Rose, California Cemetery.

NATHAN A. NELSON

* * *

Nathan A. Nelson, son of Neele and Maryanna Nelson, was born on a farm in Highland Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota, March 22, 1880. He migrated with his parents to Dakota Territory in the spring of 1882 where they pre-empted land in Argo Township, Brookings County. In 1900 he again migrated with his parents to take up homestead land in western Canada and homesteaded a quarter section of land adjoining that of his parents in the Lake DeMay district in Alberta, Canada. He

was made postmaster at Lake DeMay at the death of his father, which position he held until the establishment of rural free delivery in 1916. Nathan was a farmer for a number of years and later moved to Calgary, Canada.

LAMEN J. NELSON

* * *

Lamen J. Nelson, son of Neele and Maryanna Nelson, was born on a farm near Toronto, South Dakota, July 26, 1882. He migrated with his parents to the Lake DeMay district in Alberta, Canada, where he homesteaded a quarter section of land which he farmed and which was his home until his death May 31, 1911 at the age of 29 years. His body lies at rest in the Lake DeMay Cemetery.

CARL O. NELSON

* * *

Carl O. Nelson, son of Neele and Maryanna Nelson, was born on a farm near Toronto, South Dakota November 12, 1883. He migrated with his parents to the Lake DeMay district of Alberta, Canada in 1900 where he homesteaded a quarter section of land in the Buck Creek district. This district has since developed into an oil producing field.

MABEL N. NELSON

* * *

Mabel N. Nelson, daughter of Neele and Maryanna Nelson, was born on a farm near Toronto, South Dakota, August 19, 1885. She died August 12, 1888, at the age of three years. Her body lies at rest in the Toronto Cemetery, Toronto, South Dakota.

LILY D. NELSON

* * *

Lily D. Nelson, daughter of Neele and Maryanna Nelson, was born on a farm near Toronto, South Dakota, August 2, 1892. She migrated with her parents to the Lake DeMay district of Alberta, Canada in 1900. She died on February 6, 1920 at the age of 28 years. Her body lies at rest in the family lot in Lake DeMay Cemetery.

STANLEY A. NELSON

* * *

Stanley A. Nelson, son of Neele and Maryanna Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota, August 21, 1894. He migrated with his parents to Alberta, Canada in 1900 and lived with them until his marriage to Agnes R. Nelson, March 28, 1918. Agnes R. Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold E. Nelson, was born at Plainview, Minnesota, December 22, 1897. To their union were born Olive, November 16, 1919, died February 2, 1920; Ruby I., September 23, 1921; Lyle A., August 28, 1923; Vernon S., October 9, 1925; Dorothy M., January 15, 1928 and Clifford M., October 17, 1931. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson farmed in the Camrose district until 1921 when they moved to Calgary, Canada, where he held a position as instructor in the Calgary Technical Electrical School until his death, February 14, 1950 at the age of 66 years. His body lies at rest in the Calgary Cemetery. Note — Continued under the name of Agnes Ruth Nelson in Arnold E. Nelson family.

ESTHER J. NELSON

* * *

Esther J. Nelson, daughter of Neele and Maryanna Nelson, was born at Toronto, South Dakota,

July 29, 1896. She migrated with her parents to Lake DeMay, Alberta, Canada in 1900. She was united in marriage to Carl L. Anderson, December 14, 1922. Carl L. Anderson was born at Frairger. Denmark, May 14, 1893. He migrated with his parents to Canada in 1919 where he took up farming near Camrose. Enlisted in the Canadian Army and saw service on the western front throughout World War I. Mr. Anderson also enlisted for military service in World War II and served with the Military Police Department at the military base, Camrose, Alberta, Canada. To their union were born six children, four sons and two daughters. Their first born were twin sons, Lawrence and Leslie, September 19, 1923; Lester F., September 16, 1924; Elsa E., October 25, 1926; Earl, April 15, 1929 and Betty J., June 23, 1938. The twin sons, Lawrence and Leslie, died shortly following their birth. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson reside on a farm near Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

LESTER F. ANDERSON

* * * *

Lester F. Anderson, son of Esther J. and Carl L. Anderson, was born at Camrose, Alberta, Canada, September 16, 1924. He was united in marriage to Amy Canon, September 30, 1947. Amy Canon was born at Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, September 6, 1923. To their union were born Dennis L., August 16, 1949 and Lynne A., January 8, 1952. Lester F. Anderson joined the Canadian armed forces in April of 1943. He was assigned to the Royal Edmonton Regiment and saw service in the African and European campaigns. He was wounded on three occasions and confined to a hospital in Belgium for some time. The Andersons reside at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

ELSA E. ANDERSON

* * * *

Elsa E. Anderson, daughter of Esther and Carl L. Anderson, was born at Camrose, Alberta, Canada October 25, 1926. She was united in marriage to Frederick T. Houghton October 29, 1949. Frederick T. Houghton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Houghton, was born at Tyldesly, Lancashire, England, October 13, 1927. To their union were born Dean T., June 15, 1951; Caria, September 4, 1952 and Douglas F., March 2, 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Houghton are farmers and reside at Port Hammond, British Columbia.